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MATCH

SATURDAY,
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1989

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KENNY'S HEROES!

RUSH
KEEPS
'DOUBLE'
DREAM
ALIVE

9

GREAT
CUP FINAL
PAGES

JUBILANT John Barnes
and team-mate Barry
Venison celebrate
Liverpool's FA Cup Final
victory. More great
colour pictures from the
Wembley thriller on
Pages 2, 3, 20 and 21,
with a Cup Final Extra on
Pages 6 and 7. Scottish
Cup Final colour on
Pages 4 and 5.

CELTIC GLORY!

Miller magic ruins
Rangers 'treble' bid.

FREE INSIDE!

GLOSSY DOUBLE-SIDED
PULL-OUT POSTER

BRYAN
ROBSON
ENGLAND

Hampden
Heroes



MATCH

PAUL McSTAY
SCOTLAND

THE BEST
PICTURES ARE
IN MATCH

It's there! With just four minutes on the clock, John Aldridge races on to a McMahon pass to fire a great shot past Neville Southall and give Liverpool the perfect start.



Above: Last gasp! With the red ribbons about to fly to the FA Cup and Everton seemingly beaten, a goalmouth scramble ends with Stuart McCall stabilising the ball home to make the score 1-1 with just a minute normal time remaining. Tony Cottee (left) is clear off-side but the goal stands.



Stop that! Ian Rush (14) fires an unstoppable shot into the Everton net after turning his marker Kevin Ratcliffe and Liverpool are back in the lead at 2-1.

BRING ON THE GUNNERS

ALSO INSIDE...

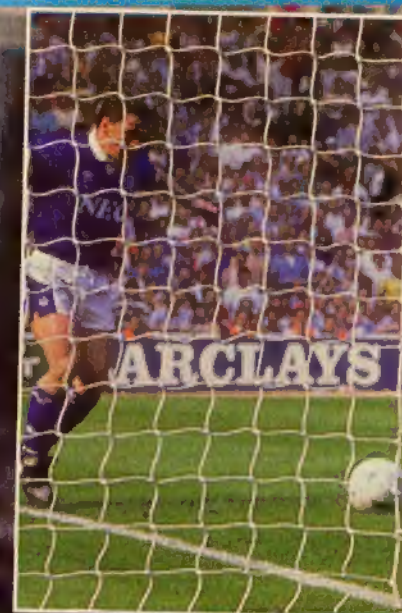
- CELTIC GLORY! COLOUR ACTION FROM HAMPDEN - Pages 4 and 5.
- RAY RYAN REPORTS FROM WEMBLEY - Pages 6 and 7.
- THE GOAL THAT WON THE CUP! IAN RUSH SOUVENIR - Pages 20 and 21.

NOW KENNY'S CUP

HEROES LOOK TO T

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NOW KENNY'S CUP

HEROES LOOK TO THE LEAGUE

LIVERPOOL now stand just 90 minutes away from the elusive 'double double' - their meeting with Championship rivals Arsenal at Anfield on Friday providing a dramatic finish to a season full of drama.

And if the 'Gunners' needed any reminding of the fire power which threatens Cockney hopes of a title-winning knees-up it was there for all to see as Liverpool successfully completed the first leg of their two-trophy chase with victory over Everton in Saturday's FA Cup Final.

Twice the 'Toffees' clawed themselves back into the match when all seemed lost. But not for the first time it was Ian Rush who proved the thorn in their side with two sweetly taken extra-time goals which put all the problems of his troublesome first season at Anfield behind him.

MATCH captures the excitement of one of Wembley's most thrilling encounters in super colour...

CELTIC at last gave the green and white side of Glasgow something to cheer about this season as a Joe Miller goal ended the 'treble' dream for rivals Rangers in the Scottish Cup Final at Hampden Park.

And ironically it was English import Gary Stevens – a man bidding to join the exclusive list of players to enjoy League and Cup success both North and South of the border – who handed the trophy to Celtic on a plate.

His mistake let in Miller, who was clear to fire past Chris Woods in the Rangers goal, and the Cup was on its way to Parkhead.

It's Celtic's Cup and skipper Roy Aitken is hoisted shoulder high after his team had ended Rangers' bid for the elusive tartan treble.

SMOKIN' JOE!

MILLER KO'S RANGERS TREBLE DREAM

There was nothing like the thirteenth Scottish Cup at Hampden hot-shot parades the trophy after the only goal of the game.

Left: Joyful Joe Miller receives the accolade after scoring the Scottish FA Cup.



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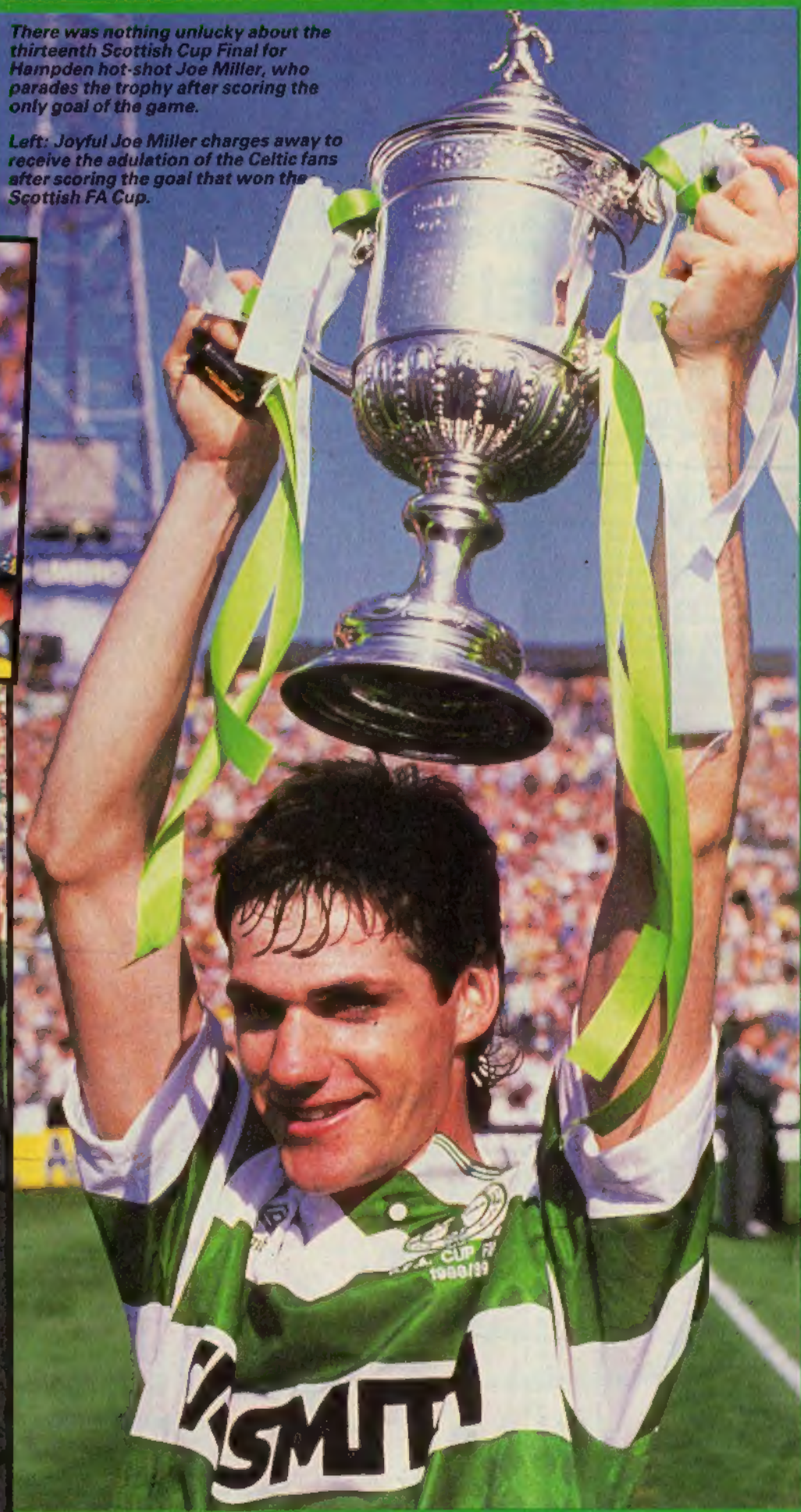
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SMOKIN' JOE!

MILLER KO'S RANGERS TREBLE DREAM

There was nothing unlucky about the thirteenth Scottish Cup Final for Hampden hot-shot Joe Miller, who parades the trophy after scoring the only goal of the game.

Left: Joyful Joe Miller charges away to receive the adulation of the Celtic fans after scoring the goal that won the Scottish FA Cup.



FINAL FAX



Saturday, May 20 FA Cup Final

EVERTON (0) 2
(McCall 89, 102)

LIVERPOOL (1) 3
(Aldridge 4, Rush 94, 103)
After extra-time
Att: 82,800 (at Wembley)

WITH two goals and a genuine quality performance STUART McCALL gave Everton hope when all seemed lost. He turned the game when he came on in the 58th minute and was the 'Toffees' star performer with his accurate distribution. For Liverpool meanwhile RAY HOUGHTON was outstanding - producing a vintage performance and covering every blade of grass to make things tick in the 'Reds' engine room.



Ray Ryan reports on one of the most dramatic Finals ever seen beneath the twin towers ...

FA Cup Final EXTRA!

Rush to the rescue!
Liverpool substitute Ian Rush (far right) watches his right-foot strike beat the diving Neville Southall to restore the Reds' lead at 2-1.



**RUSH DOUBLE DESTROYS
EVERTON, BUT
IAN ADMITS ...**



Star man McCall. Star man Houghton.

EVERTON	Mins pld.	Rating
Southall	120	8
McDonald	120	6
Van den Hauwe	120	6
Ratcliffe	120	6
Watson	120	5
Bracewell	58	5
McCall	62	9*
Nevin	120	8
Steven	120	7
Sharp	120	7
Cottee	120	5
Sheedy	77	6
Wilson	43	7

LIVERPOOL	Mins pld.	Rating
Grobelaar	120	7
Ablett	120	6
Staunton	90	7
Venison	30	7
Nicol	120	8
Whelan	120	7
Hansen	120	8
Beardsley	120	6
Aldridge	72	7
Rush	38	8
Houghton	120	9*
Barnes	120	7
McMahon	120	8

Referee: J. Worrall (Warrington)
Match Rating: ****

Super sub Stuart McCall is hoisted aloft by skipper Kevin Ratcliffe after his second goal - a stunning volley - had brought Everton level at 2-2. Ian Wilson and Trevor Steven race to add their congratulations.



HEARD AT WEMBLEY

“Liverpool had most of the possession throughout the 120 minutes so it was no great surprise they won. But we can be proud that we put in a good performance, made it a hard battle and helped produce a very entertaining spectacle.”
- Colin Harvey (Everton manager)

“We always knew we would be the stronger side going into extra-time so we felt no need to panic. It was a great day and it was a fair result on the run of play.”
- Ronnie Whelan (Liverpool skipper)

“Although I felt we could win going into extra-time, the way Liverpool responded to my two goals shows what a tremendous side they are. Although we've lost it will be a day I'll never forget.”
- Stuart McCall (Everton goalscorer)

“I've been saying all season that we've got the character and ability to win the double and I may now be proved right. It proves that people should never question us, or consider writing us off.”
- Steve McMahon (Liverpool)

TWO-GOAL hero Ian Rush shot Liverpool to the brink of 'double double' glory on the day he re-wrote the Merseyside record books - and then declared: “I don't think I'll be in the starting line-up for the title decider against Arsenal!”

The Welsh wizard, who came on as a 72nd minute substitute for John Aldridge, blasted the goals which won Kenny Dalglish's 'Red Army' the FA Cup ... but they came so close to disaster.

After leading 1-0 with a minute remaining, the Anfield outfit watched in agony as Everton substitute Stuart McCall grabbed a last-gasp equaliser, sending the thrilling Final into extra-time.

And when Rush put the 'Reds' back in the lead after 94 minutes, McCall levelled the score eight minutes later with a superbly struck volley.

But Rush's deftly-directed glancing header a minute later not only killed off Everton's Cup dream but gave him his 21st goal in Merseyside derby games - beating Dixie Dean's old record by two.

“I'm obviously very proud to beat the scoring record of a legend like Dixie, but to be honest I'm just relieved we won the Cup,” Ian said afterwards.

“We should have won in normal time and it was our own

fault that we let things slip with seconds remaining.

“Although Everton's goal came as a bitter blow we showed tremendous character to go back at them.

“Our heads may have gone down briefly but we responded well and it was a great personal honour to get the goals which won the Cup.

“However, I still don't think I'll be in the starting line-up for the match against Arsenal on Friday night!”

The 'Reds' match against George Graham's side will decide the destination of the League Championship after one of the most dramatic seasons this century.

But although Ian hasn't featured regularly in the club's march towards the 'double double' he still believes he's had a tremendous season.

“I've come back from Juventus, scored two goals which have won the FA Cup and I'm on the verge of another Championship, so I've no complaints,” Ian says.

“Besides, while I'm on the sidelines it means other players are doing well. And if that keeps them on their toes and brings success to Liverpool then it can't be that bad.”

Despite the Cup going to the Red corner of Merseyside it was a day when the whole city united. And as the two teams walked off after 120 minutes of nail-biting football the cry around Wembley was: ‘Merseyside, Merseyside’ ... an emotional reminder of the heartache left by the tragedy of Hillsborough.

'I WON'T BE PICKED AGAINST ARSENAL!'

MANCHESTER CITY veteran Neil McNab has every right to put his feet up this summer.

At the ripe old age of 31, the much-travelled midfield general deserves a rest after leading his City troops back to Division One after a season he readily admits was the hardest of his career.

After looking clear favourites to

join Chelsea as one of the two sides automatically promoted to the First Division, the Maine Road side let things slip and had to fight a nail-biting last match of the season before clinching their ticket to the top flight.

And Neil's determination in ensuring that Mel Machin's side crept through to the top flight was rewarded when he was voted the club's Player of the Year.

But looking back on a hectic season, you can sympathise with Neil when he breathes a huge sigh of relief and confesses: "Thank God the season's over!"

Continues Neil: "I've seen a lot of ups and downs in my career but this season takes some beating."

"For threequarters of the campaign we played some excellent football and looked as though we would win promotion comfortably."

Downhill

"However things then went downhill as the pressure mounted and we were struggling in our last few games."

"And when we needed a point from our last match of the season at Bradford, it was the most nerve-racking experience I've ever been through."

"I don't know how the youngsters coped because I was nervous even after 17 years in the game."

"So naturally we got off to shaky start and Bradford went a goal ahead after just 24 minutes. Then we threw everything at them but it wasn't until four minutes from time that Trevor Morley got the equalising goal which meant promotion."

"Trevor's goal came as a great relief and it now has to rank as the highlight of my career - despite the toll it took on me!"

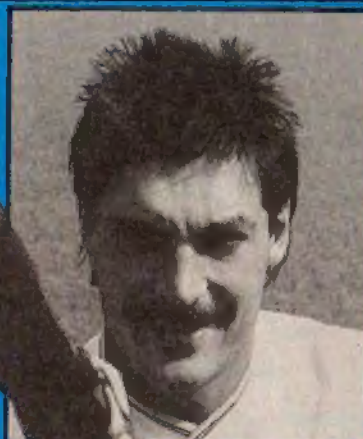
Neil has gone through a rejuvenation period which saw him guide City's youngsters through all the difficulties and, despite everything, he admits: "It's been a great thrill. It always helps having an older player around when things get heated and at times I've found myself just calming players down and making sure they don't get carried away."

"It's been a great team effort all round and I think promotion is just about what we deserved."

"It's also the third time in my

THANK GOD THAT'S OVER!

CITY'S PROMOTION BRINGS RELIEF FOR McNAB



Above: Trevor Morley - scored the goal which finally earned City promotion.

career that I have been promoted to the First Division but, while this has been the hardest one yet, it's also been the most enjoyable."

"And for a city like Manchester to have two big sides in the top flight is only right."

"The fans can now look forward to the good old-fashioned derbies they used to enjoy."

But Neil is also quick to point out that the club will have to invest in new players to become a real force in the First Division.

Experience

"We need more experience just to balance things out," he says.

"We need a couple more older heads to get a well-balanced side."

"But I still think we'll do well next season. The First Division is certainly the weakest I've seen and I think we can exploit that."

"And with one or two new signings, I think City will be a team to be reckoned with next season!"

Left: Neil McNab - nerve-racking season.

ANDY THORN finally ended months of speculation surrounding his future, declaring: "I'm staying at Newcastle."

The 22-year-old centre-back has been reported to have had talks with a number of top First Division clubs as his first season at St James' Park has turned into a disaster.

After joining the club from FA Cup winners Wimbledon last summer, Andy's high hopes of

the prospect of playing in the Second Division.

"When I signed for Newcastle I had high hopes of success and I never imagined that my first season would end on such a disappointing note."

"But I'm realistic enough to know players have to accept both the highs and the lows in football."

"So we now have to look to the future and I'm confident enough that we can bounce back to the First Division next

THORN IN YOUR SIDE!

ANDY WON'T QUIT RELEGATED MAGPIES

success quickly vanished as the 'Magpies' found themselves in the bottom half of the First Division before finally crashing through the relegation trapdoor.

And that 'Magpies' misery has led to rumours that Andy will quit Jim Smith's side in the summer.

However, the former England Under-21 defender is quick to dismiss the speculation, insisting: "I'm going nowhere."

Adds Andy: "I've seen all the stories in the newspapers about a possible move but it's all nonsense."

"I haven't spoken to any clubs about a transfer so, as far as I'm concerned, I'm happy to stay at Newcastle - despite our relegation."

Despite his commitment to the St James' Park side, Andy is the first to admit that his first season on Tyneside couldn't have been much worse.

"While everyone at the club is upset at our relegation, it's been worse for me because I've gone from the highlight of my career to the lowest ebb in just 12 months," Andy says.

"This time last year I was celebrating after winning the FA Cup with Wimbledon but now I can only look forward to

season."

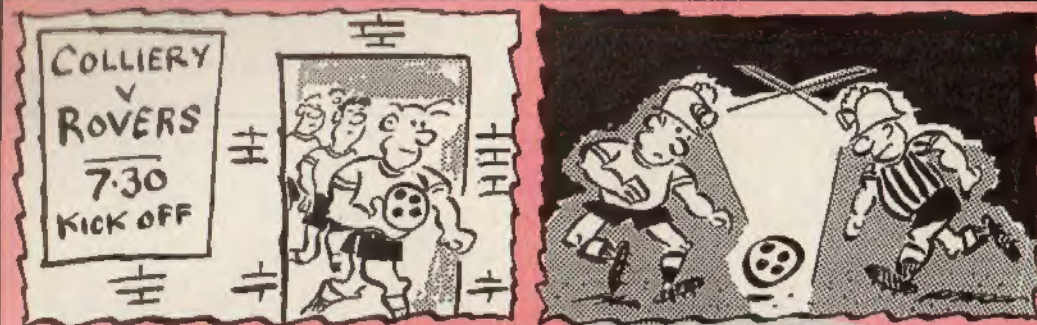
In addition to facing the prospect of Second Division football, Andy and his teammates have also had to face the wrath of manager Jim Smith who accused the players of lack of commitment and of letting everybody down.

But while Andy refuses to comment on the boss's allegations, he does admit the players could have given more.



Flashback to May 1988 and Andy (back row, third left) enjoys the high of FA Cup glory with his Wimbledon teammates, but it's been all downhill since.

Andy Thorn - staying loyal to Newcastle despite relegation.



MATCH READERS SHOW THEIR GENEROSITY

THE generosity and warmth of MATCH readers has been overwhelming as the money has flooded in for the MATCH Hillsborough Appeal Fund. And the name of every reader who makes a donation – however small – will go into a draw for an Umbro ball autographed by the England squad and kindly donated by Malcolm Russell of Replica World. Send your cheques or postal orders, made payable to MATCH, to the: MATCH Hillsborough Appeal Fund, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ. Include your name and address with your donation.

TOUR-IFIC!

CONGRATULATIONS to caring fans Denise Day and her boyfriend Duncan Everitt, who embarked on a sponsored tour of England's football grounds in support of the Hillsborough Appeal Fund (Editor's Desk, May 6).

The exhausted pair, who live in Bedford, called in at the MATCH offices earlier this week to report that their 24-hour marathon took in 34 clubs – and they had a photograph of every ground visited to prove it.

"Our best reception was at Old Trafford," enthused Denise (24), proudly displaying a

picture of herself and Duncan with United favourites Brian McClair, Jim Leighton and Bryan Robson. "We hope to be able to send at least £500 to the fund when all the money is in."

Denise began the 24-hour drive only a few days after coming out of hospital where she had been treated for a kidney complaint. What a tremendous effort!

● YOU'LL find your Hampden Heroes poster – the second in our MATCH WINNERS series – in the middle pages of this issue. To avoid tearing it carefully lift the staples and ease the poster off them before flattening the staples again – but be careful not to prick yourself.



LATEST circulation figures show that MATCH is increasing sales ten times faster than any other football weekly. So make certain not to miss your copy of Britain's brightest and best soccer magazine by filling in this coupon and handing it to your newsagent.

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Please reserve/deliver my copy of MATCH every week until further notice.

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EDITOR'S DESK



WITH MELVYN BAGNALL

HERE COME THE GLORY BOYS!

Don't miss next week's MATCH.

DON'T MISS another magnificent pull-out colour poster FREE with next week's MATCH!

"The Glory Boys" is the third in our exciting and exclusive MATCH WINNERS double-sided poster series.

Meet the men who have grabbed the headlines – and the trophies – in the action-packed poster to be found folded into the middle of our June 3 issue.

So look out for MATCH in the shops next week. We won't be hard to miss – your super poster will be pictured on the front cover and, in any case, MATCH will be the only football magazine with a free gift!

Great value gifts just keep coming from MATCH, one of the reasons why our sales are rocketing to record heights.

But with more and more fans turning to football's number one magazine, make sure you get your copy by asking your newsagent to save or deliver it every week. To help you we've printed a coupon for just that purpose (see left).



Glory boy Nigel Clough whose two goals helped Forest win the Littlewoods Cup this season.

EXCLUSIVE!

THERE'S a double dose of exclusive big match action in next week's issue.

To include colour from the Scotland v England clash AND the Sherpa Van Trophy Final we've delayed printing by 24 hours.

MATCH will be the only football weekly with colour from BOTH the Hampden and Wembley games. So remember, next week's MATCH will be on sale Thursday, June 1. GET IT OR REGRET IT!

RIPLEY WON'T MOVE

STUART RIPLEY has dashed the hopes of clubs eyeing up his £1 million-rated talent by pledging his long-term future to Ayresome Park.

The 21-year-old striker has been the subject of much speculation which heightened when Middlesbrough were relegated from the First Division earlier this month.

And news of Stuart's decision to stay with the club will come as a big boost to North-East football which has recently suffered an alarming decline in fortunes.

Says Stuart: "I keep reading talk about my future in the papers and feel it's only fair to set the record straight."

"I have signed a four-year contract at the club which still has three years to run but as far as I'm concerned I'd be happy to sign for another five!"

"I love the club and have no intention of leaving. The only way I would go is if the manager saw fit to sell me."

"The fact we've just been relegated has done nothing to change my opinion. If anything, it makes me more determined to stay and help get the club back in the First Division."

Tough nut!

Stuart is convinced that next season will see a revival in the fortunes of North East football which has suffered so tragically this year, although he admits that both Middlesbrough and Newcastle will find the Second Division a tough nut to crack.

Says Stuart: "I still can't believe we've been relegated in our first season, although a number of reasons have contributed to our downfall."

"The club has suffered from their fair share of injuries which hasn't helped and, without making too many excuses, we never had a settled side."

"But I suppose we never came to grips with the quality of the First Division and underestimated many of the sides."

"The likes of Liverpool and Nottingham Forest run you ragged and you are lucky if you see the ball in 90 minutes while every mistake you make gets punished."

"Bridging the gap between First and Second Division football is a real problem and that's why promoted sides struggle so much."

"I honestly believe you can count yourself lucky if you survive a season in the top flight after gaining promotion."

"Millwall have done tremendously but even they began to show signs of cracking up towards the end of the season."

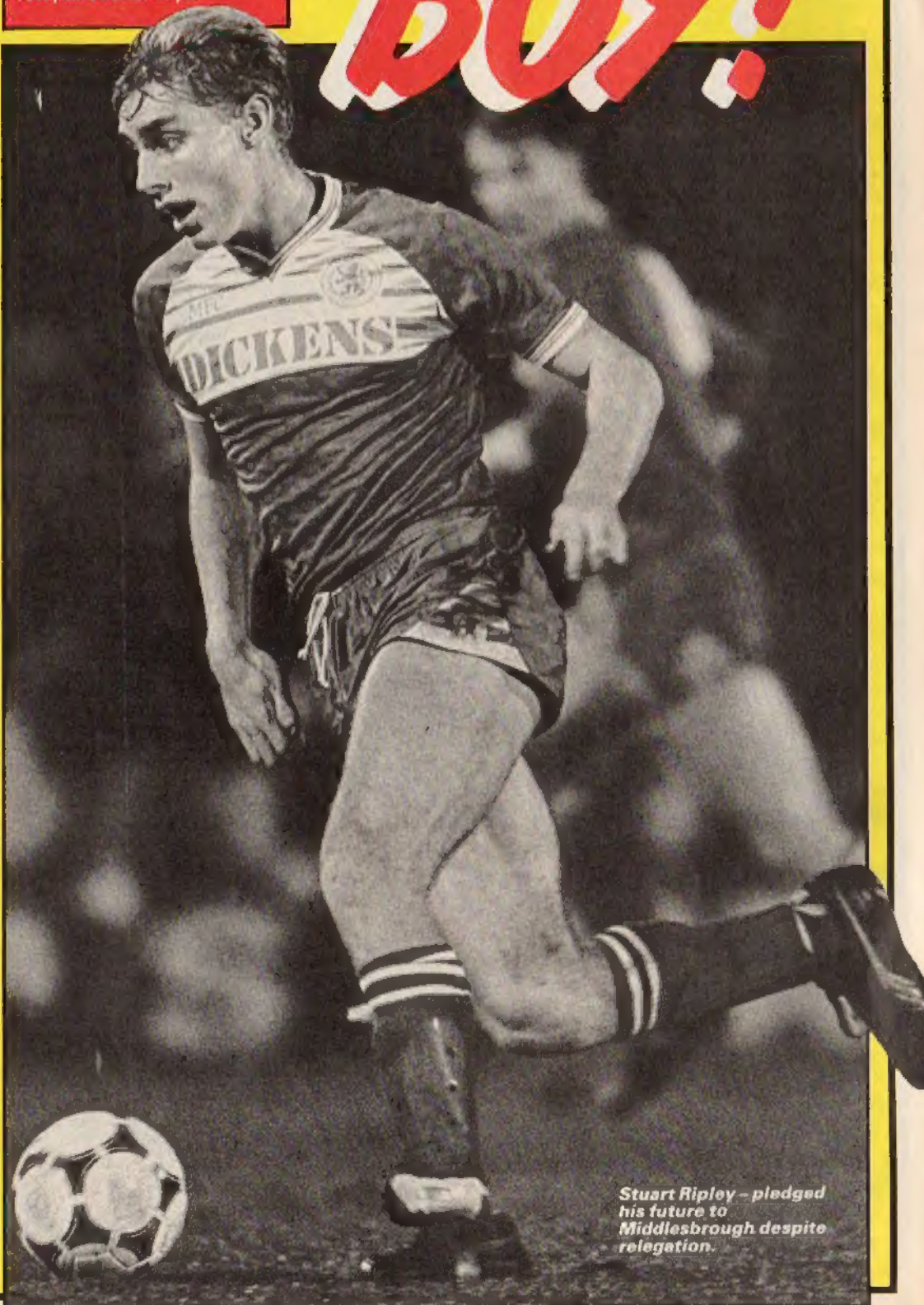
"Our priority now is to bounce right back and, as long as we can hold on to our best

players, I'm almost certain we will."

"The big clubs will see our relegation as an opportunity to buy up our best players – people like Colin Cooper, Tony Mowbray, Gary Pallister and Mark Brennan – but I'm confident all of them will follow in my footsteps and stay."

"We know what it takes to get out of the Second Division, although I think it will be a lot harder than two seasons ago, especially with clubs like Newcastle, Sunderland, Wolves and Leeds desperate to recapture better days."

BORO BOY!



Stuart Ripley – pledged his future to Middlesbrough despite relegation.

ROTHERHAM'S DIVISION 4 CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS



Jolly Milers!

FOURTH Division Champions Rotherham celebrate with the Barclays League trophy following their 0-0 draw with Cambridge on the final Saturday of the season.

BACK ROW (left to right): John Green, Nigel Johnson, Billy Russell, Bobby Williamson, Stewart Evans, John Buckley, Paul Haycock, Clive Mendonca, Phil Crosby, Andy Barnsley, Pat Heard.

FRONT ROW: Tony Grealish, Kelham O'Hanlon, Martin Scott, Shaun Goodwin, Mark Dempsey, Des Hazel.

SUMMER TIME SPECIALS

UNBEATABLE PRICE REDUCTIONS!

185

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HAMPDEN PARK will be full to the rafters on Saturday when Scotland take on England in what promises to be a full-blooded Rous Cup tie. Here MATCH columnist Emlyn Hughes looks forward to seeing Nigel Clough make his debut in an England win while Scottish star Richard Gough has other plans...

RIGHT: Neil Webb – can help settle any nerves his Nottingham Forest team-mate Nigel Clough may have.



THE traditional confrontation between Scotland and England may have lost some of its magic in recent years but when Richard Gough pulls a dark blue shirt over his head on Saturday, all the old rivalries will again come to the fore.

"The World Cup and the European Championship are now the main events, with the abandonment of the Home Internationals and the tendency to switch the Wembley match to a midweek date all detracting from the appeal of the Scotland-England clash," he

Richard Gough – "The fans will leave us in no doubt about how important it is to beat the English."

Fives alive!

IBROX RIVALRY ADDS EXTRA SPICE TO HAMPDEN SHOWDOWN

explains.

"But when we go on to the pitch this weekend the crowd will leave us in no doubt about how important it is to beat the English.

"And with a few members of their squad also having been on the receiving end of a few hammerings in the Ibrox five-a-sides, the players too will be fired up for the match.

"They will be looking for a

FORM GUIDE

RESULTS of the last ten meetings between Scotland and England at Hampden.

May 27, 1972
SCOTLAND 0
ENGLAND 1 (Ball)

February 14, 1973
SCOTLAND 0
ENGLAND 5 (Channon, Chivers, Clarke (2), og)

May 18, 1974
SCOTLAND 2 (Jordan, og)
ENGLAND 0

May 15, 1976
SCOTLAND 2 (Masson, Dalglish)
ENGLAND 1 (Channon)

May 20, 1978
SCOTLAND 0
ENGLAND 1 (Coppell)

May 24, 1980
SCOTLAND 0
ENGLAND 2 (Coppell, Brookings)

May 29, 1982
SCOTLAND 0
ENGLAND 1 (Mariner)

May 26, 1984
SCOTLAND 1 (McGhee)
ENGLAND 1 (Woodcock)

May 25, 1985
SCOTLAND 1 (Gough)
ENGLAND 0

May 23, 1987
SCOTLAND 0
ENGLAND 0

NIGEL CLOUGH should make up for two lost years on Saturday.

That's the period of time the Nottingham Forest striker should have been on the England scene instead of having to kick his heels in the Under-21 side.

But all that will hopefully be forgotten at Hampden when, if Bobby Robson's got anything about him at all, he will throw

CLOUGH'S LOST YEARS

the 23-year-old in for his long overdue international debut.

The absence of Peter Beardsley and Gary Lineker means there's a yawning gap up front and it's quite appropriate that it should be Peter's unavailability that clears the way for Nigel.

The duo have been the best home-based English forwards for quite a while, and Nigel should certainly be in the queue of replacements ahead of the likes of Alan Smith, Tony Cottee and Mick Harford.

THE EMLYN HUGHES COLUMN



'Cloughie' junior will be desperate to prove himself, and he's shown on more than one occasion this term that he's got the perfect temperament for the big occasion.

Nigel should also be helped by the presence of Neil Webb, Stuart Pearce and Des Walker in the team, and any nerves will certainly be helped by those familiar faces.

I'm afraid the game doesn't seem to have the edge it has had in previous years, but it'll still be a heck of a contest and be a useful warm-up for the

Poland World Cup game a week later.

Bobby Robson knows his best team now, but the emergence of Nigel – and Spurs' Paul Gascoigne if he's given a chance – would be a real bonus for the England boss.

But we all know Bobby, and I reckon most people know my views on him now.

All the same he should pick Clough and Gascoigne, tell them to go out and enjoy themselves (as 'Gazza' would anyway), and then sit back and let the whole of England enjoy another thrashing of the Scots.

NIGEL Clough – must be given his chance in the Hampden clash.



confidence-boosting win as their World Cup tie with Poland draws near, while we are keen to carry our recent good form into the new season for our games against France, Yugoslavia and Norway.

"So it could turn out to be a good, old-fashioned British cup tie."

Deservedly chosen as Scotland's Footballer of the Year, Richard has enjoyed a memorable season for both club and country.

Since his £1.2 million move from Spurs, he has formed secure centre back partnerships – first with Graham Roberts and now with the fit-again Terry Butcher – and his contribution to the 'Light Blues' success this season cannot be overstated.

But it is in the right-back role that he has starred for Scotland.

And clearly the mood in Andy Roxburgh's squad is currently

at an all-time high.

"I'll play anywhere so long as it's to the benefit of the team," he says.

"We have made a great start to our World Cup campaign and it would be nice to pick up the Rous Cup to keep things ticking over.

"One of my fondest football memories is of heading the only goal in the inaugural Rous Cup match back in 1985 and the fact that we have not beaten the English since then should put extra pep into our play.

"And the presence of a few of my Rangers' team-mates plus my old Spurs pal Chris Waddle in the England line-up will certainly give me plenty to play for.

"Our English contingent have been using last year's Wembley win to wind us up but a Scotland victory on Saturday will soon put an end to that!"

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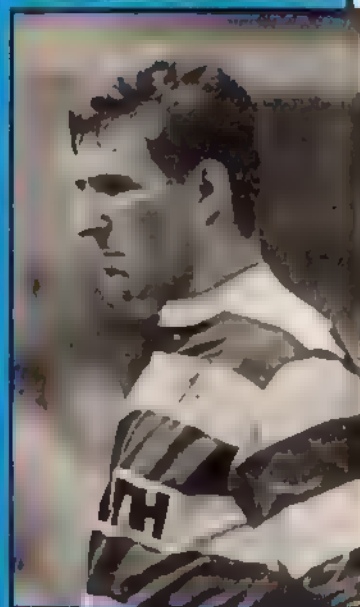
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Peterborough PE2 0XW.

TWENTY quick questions to put you in the mood for
Saturday's big game between 'Auld Enemy' rivals
England and Scotland at Hampden.

AULD ENEMY QUIZ TIME



SOLUTIONS

Butcher, Ray Wilkins and Chris Woods, 15. Bruce Ritchie. 1. True; 2. The first team to beat England after they won the World Cup in 1966; 3. Peter Beardsley; 4. Rangers, Stewart Kennedy, 5. Gary Stevens (Everton) and Gary Stevens (Spurs); 6. England (42 games); 7. Ian Wilson; 8. Brazil; 9. Aberdeen; 10. 1961; 11. Steve Coppell; 12. Gordon Strachan and David Spaldie; 13. Alex Ferguson; 14. Five; 15. Mel Sterland, Gary Stevens, Terry

OUR Manchester
United star brings
you the inside news
from Old Trafford
every fortnight and
only in MATCH.

6 MY recall to Andy
Roxburgh's Scotland
squad for the game
against England made
quite a contrast to the
events of the previous
day.

Just before I heard the
news from the Scottish
camp I had turned out for
United reserves at Leicester
along with Bryan Robson,
Mark Hughes, Mal Donaghy
and Clayton Blackmore...
and we lost 3-1!

Contrary to reports we
weren't all put into the team to
ensure United's Reserves
stayed in Division One of the
Central League (a lot of good
we did anyway).

But as manager Alex
Ferguson pointed out when he
selected the side, with the

THE BRIAN MCCLAIR COLUMN

out of the way as the last few
weeks had dragged a bit with
games coming thick and fast
and United not enjoying the
best of results.

So many games also meant
players didn't have time to get
over knocks, and as was the
case with the reserves, the
club's resources were really
stretched.

But young striker Mark
Robins seized his opportunity
to shine against Newcastle,
setting up my goal after a great
run and cross from the left.

He'd previously set up
another chance just before that
and generally caught the eye in
the brief time he was on the
field. He actually came on as
substitute in our win over
Liverpool, but perhaps hasn't
had as much attention as some

SPECIAL RESERVE!

youth team having a game on
the same night the club was
down to 14 fit players, so he
had little option but to play us.

Leicester had one or two
players with first team
experience in as well, but their
younger players raised their
game and in the end we could
have little argument about the
result.

It didn't condemn the
second string to the drop as
some reports indicated,
though, and after West Brom's
draw with Everton last week
United needed a point going
into their last game of the
season on Saturday - and
needless to say I was on stand-
by.

All that frantic activity came
after I thought I'd finished my
season at Old Trafford by
scoring in the 2-0 win over
Newcastle.

I've got to be honest and say
it was a relief to get that game

of the other younger players.

He's been a very prolific
scorer in the junior teams,
however, and if he continues to
hit the net at the rate he has
done this term he must have a
real chance of carving out a
career for himself.

Back on the international
front I was obviously pleased to
be back in Andy Roxburgh's
squad after missing out for the
game against Cyprus.

I'd love the chance to have a
crack at the English at
Hampden, particularly after
missing out on the chance of
playing at Wembley last season
because I was required for a
club game.

The only time I've played
against England was a 0-0 affair
at Hampden in 1987, and to be
honest the game wasn't a
classic, so it would be nice to
get another chance. 9

AS told to Howard
Wheatcroft.



LITTLE AND CHARGE!

WHERE to now for Darlington? Relegated from the Football League, will they go the way of Lincoln and bounce straight back or will they suffer the same fate as Newport?

DARLINGTON AIM TO BOUNCE BACK

BRIAN LITTLE has given Darlington a massive boost in the wake of the club losing their fight for League survival.

The 35-year-old took over as manager on a week-to-week basis in February with the unenviable task of turning the club's fortunes around.

And although his fight was in vain, Brian has pledged to bring back League football to Feethams Ground by signing a new two-year contract.

Says Brian: "I gave myself three months to save the club and couldn't. It's as simple as that."

"There were a number of reasons why, including poor home form, injuries and our own inconsistency, but the big turning point came when we lost at home to Colchester in April.

"Had we won that fixture I believe we could have saved ourselves but, on the day, they

were more desperate than us and got the result they wanted."

While Colchester's form improved towards the end of the season, Darlington's suffered and the team travelled to Scunthorpe on Saturday May 6 knowing only a win would do, but they lost 5-1 and with it their League status.

Says Brian: "That result came as no surprise. There was no way we could contend with Colchester's late form so our results were meaningless."

"My priority now is to build a side not only capable of winning the Conference but with the ability to maintain a challenge for promotion when we get back in the Football League."

"It won't be easy but I'm sure we can succeed. We have a new chairman and the spirit at the club remains high despite all that's happened."

Just like Lincoln

DARLINGTON defender Jim Willis is convinced the club could have saved their League status had they acted more quickly.

The 20-year-old believes the arrival of Brian Little as manager came six months too late when only a miracle could have saved the club.

But despite the prospect of life in non-League football, Jim is adamant the club will follow in the footsteps of Lincoln and bounce straight back.

Says Jim: "Although Brian did everything in his power to save the club, he arrived far too late. He didn't have a chance. "I for one expected the club to do quite well and possibly be involved in the promotion race - not a desperate fight to preserve our League status - although as the season progressed it became more apparent the team would struggle."

"So when we eventually found ourselves bottom of the table and heading out of the Football League, no-one was surprised."

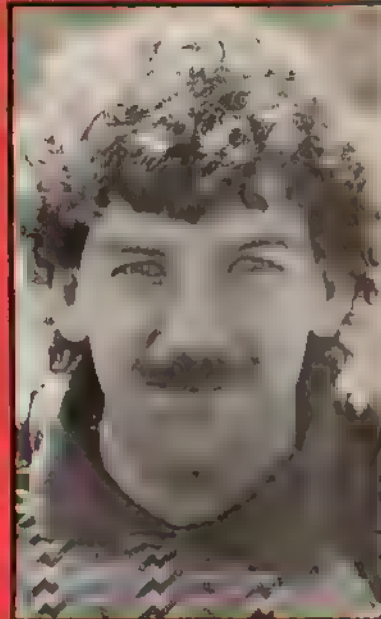
"It's important now that we show a lot of character and bounce straight back and the purchase of players to strengthen the squad is essential."

● HOW it looked at the bottom of Division Four following the programme on the final Saturday of the season with Darlington seven points adrift of the rest:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Colchester	46	12	14	20	60	78	50
Doncaster	46	13	10	23	49	78	49
Darlington	46	8	18	20	53	76	42

Brian Little celebrates with the League Championship trophy following Aston Villa's success in 1981. Now he must put all his experience to use at the other end of the football scale.

FELGATE'S WEMBLEY DREAM COMES TRUE



SHERPA VAN SHOOT-OUT

BOLTON v TORQUAY, SHERPA VAN TROPHY FINAL, WEMBLEY, MAY 28.

Spotlight on two men for whom victory on Sunday would be especially sweet.

FAMILY HONOUR

FIRES MCNICHOL



ABOVE: Jim McNichol - hoping to make amends for family disappointment in this year's Littlewoods Cup Final.

LEFT: Tim Brecker - his brother-in-law is out to make up for the sadness surrounding Luton's Wembley defeat.

TORQUAY skipper Jim McNichol has already witnessed the disappointment of Wembley defeat this season and is determined to make amends on Sunday.

The 30-year-old defender, brother-in-law of Luton's Tim Brecker, was at Wembley when the 'Hatters' lost to Nottingham Forest in last month's Littlewoods Cup Final.

So after suffering one Wembley heartache, Jim is out to ensure that his family have at least one football success this season.

Says Jim: "I watched Tim pick up a Littlewoods Cup winners' medal against Arsenal in 1988 but I was so sorry for him when Luton lost to Forest last month."

"They say there is no worse place to lose than at Wembley so Tim and the other Luton lads were understandably upset at their defeat."

"No words can console someone who has lost in a Final but, if we can beat Bolton on Sunday, that may go some way towards making up for Tim's Wembley disappointment."

"Hopefully our family won't

have another Final defeat to contend with."

But while Jim is hoping they don't suffer the disappointment of Sherpa Van Trophy defeat, he realises how lucky he is to be part of Torquay's Cup Final side.

After picking up his fourth sending-off this season in a recent match with Wolves, it looked as though the FA would impose a six-match ban on Jim which would have ruled him out of Sunday's showcase Final.

But after getting away with a ban of four matches - and a fine of two weeks' wages - the Torquay captain realises the error of his ways.

"I've been in the game long enough to know better," Jim says. "Admittedly sometimes I get a bit carried away going into tackles and it very nearly cost me a place at Wembley."

"But the last sending-off I received was for elbowing a player in the face and I realise it was a stupid thing to do."

"I'm very lucky to be in contention for a place on Sunday so I'll certainly be looking to improve on my record."

MATCH
WEMBLEY SPECIAL



Arms raised in triumph, Ian Rush sets off on his victory run after scoring the goal (above) which won the FA Cup for Liverpool – timing his run perfectly to guide the ball past Everton's Neville Southall from an inch-perfect John Barnes' cross.

**THE GOAL THAT WON
THE CUP!**



**FA Cup
Final**

**1988/89
SOUVENIR POSTER**

THE striking record of Rangers and Scotland ace

Ally McCoist

Season	Club	Appearances	Goals
1978-79	St Johnstone	4	1
1979-80	St Johnstone	15	1
1980-81	St Johnstone	38	22
1981-82	Sunderland	28	2
1982-83	Sunderland	28	6
1983-84	Rangers	30	9
1984-85	Rangers	25	12
1985-86	Rangers	33	24
1986-87	Rangers	44	33
1987-88	Rangers	40	31
1988-89	Rangers	18	10

International apps/goals for Scotland

15

4

• Facts correct to May 12, 1989

Hampden Heroes

ODD BALL!

MAGIC-ALLY!

CELEBRATION time for Paul Gascoigne and the Tottenham star - will be furious he'll be punching the air in joyous mood again at Hampden on Saturday.



MATCH WINNERS POSTER

2

Hampden Heroes

Hampden Heroes

CHRIS WADDLE'S

STAR SECRETS!

FULL NAME: Christopher Waddle.
BIRTHPLACE/DATE: Gateshead/Dec. 14, 1960.
HEIGHT/WEIGHT: 6ft/11st 5lbs.
SUBJECT MOST HATED AT SCHOOL: Woodwork — the teacher was always picking on me!
FIRST CAR BOUGHT AND THE COST: A 1970 blue Ford Capri for £100.
FAVOURITE POP STAR: Phil Collins.
HOBBIES: Playing snooker and watching motor racing.
FAVOURITE CARTOON CHARACTER: Bugs Bunny.
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTSMAN: Tennis star John McEnroe.
FAVOURITE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING: My jeans.

ODD BALL!

DID YOU KNOW!
 That Chris Waddle's biggest criticism of himself is that he isn't a footballer?

Hampden Heroes

MIGHTY Mo Johnston has always been a man full of surprises... and he proved that this month when he quit the sunny climes of Nantes to make a glorious return to Celtic.

Despite making claims he would never return to Glasgow, the super striker is back at Parkhead following a blockbuster £2 million deal which made him Celtic's most expensive signing.

And the return of their prodigal son will come as great news for the Celtic faithful who have watched city rivals Rangers dominate the 1988/89 season.

MIGHTY MO!

Mo's arrival back in his native Scotland comes after a season where he boasted a goal trail across the whole of Europe.

In addition to hitting the goals which have kept Nantes in contention for the French title, Mo Jo has also helped Scotland to top their World Cup qualifying group.

And his spectacular goal against Cyprus in April this year confirmed him as Scotland's number one World Cup marksmen.

ODD BALL!

DID YOU KNOW!
 that Mo made a superb start to his Scotland career when he scored on his debut against Wales in 1984?

**BRYAN
ROBSON
ENGLAND**

**Hampden
Heroes**





PAUL McSTAY
SCOTLAND

**MATCH**

MICK'S MAILBAG



MATCH welcomes you to the best read letters page in football - with a super laminated Gola Trainer football going to the writer of this week's star letter and a special button badge for every letter published. Send your letters to: Mick's Mailbag, MATCH, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

GOLDEN GOOF



BREEZING PAST — Howard Gayle leaves Pompey defender Clive Whitehead grounded

I'M in the middle of a sponsored walk from Weymouth in Dorset to Liverpool in aid of the Hillsborough Disaster Fund. It's a 270-mile trip and naturally I could do with all the support I can get. I plan to reach Liverpool on June 1. Jay Goodison, Flat 3, 9A King Street, Weymouth, Dorset

WHAT'S this? Has former Liverpool player Howard Gayle gone a whiter shade of pale? According to the News of the World he has. Antony Haywood, Whitwell, Notts.

AS a loyal Manchester United supporter I have been disappointed with the way their performances rapidly declined in the closing weeks of the season.

The slump can be traced back to the FA Cup exit at the hands of Nottingham Forest on 11. It seemed to me the players thought the season was over. They have forgotten one thing - the supporters who pay their wages and come to expect 100 per cent effort from the team they support.

I don't expect United to win every game but I do expect them to give their best efforts otherwise they are beating themselves and the fans. David Smith, Droylsden, Manchester

I CANNOT believe that nobody has written to 'Mailbag' in praise of DJ Bear, alias Paul Trevillion.

He has become a great success because he shows the fun side of football and is an absolute winner with younger football fans.

I met DJ at a West Ham match and was very impressed. MATCH shows the enjoyable side of soccer and DJ is the perfect ambassador.

Francis Rodriguez, South West London

● HAVING met Paul last week, I too was impressed with his enthusiasm and love of the game.



DJ Bear offers the hand of friendship to young fans at an Arsenal game.

GOLA SPORTS STAR LETTER



MAGPIES SORROW

ISN'T it sad that the three stars of England's 5-0 win over World Cup rivals Albania were all Newcastle old boys - and the club finds itself in the Second Division?

Can you imagine Newcastle relegated if Peter Beardsley, Chris Waddle and Paul Gascoigne had still been at the club?

However, something good may come from what I hope will be a brief stay in the

CONGRATULATIONS Chelsea! The team everyone wrote off last season has bounced back from the Second Division with such force that many people see them as possible First Division Champions next term. The Blues' turned the Second Division title race into a procession and who would bet against Chelsea doing just the same in the top flight? Ian Wollard, Carshalton, Surrey
● ME I would!

WHO does Paul Revell (Mailbag, April 29) think he is? How nice of him to suggest that England is the only country in Europe without a football hooliganism problem. What about Ireland?

On Wednesday April 26 50,000 people saw Ireland beat Spain. Was there any trouble? No way! Irish supporters are by far the best behaved supporters in Europe... and probably the world. Paul Waugh, Cahir, Republic of Ireland.

I'M sure Terry Venables has now silenced the critics who reckoned his arrival as Tottenham boss was a disaster.

A 5-0 romp at Millwall, 2-1 victory at Wimbledon, 3-0 success over West Ham and a 2-1 win over Cup Finalists Everton sent the White Hart Lane team surging into the First Division's top five.

The millions spent on Paul Stewart and Paul Gascoigne now look like money well spent and who can doubt that Spurs will mount a very real title threat next term?

Ian Hodgkins, Widnes

● VICTORIES over teams which, on the whole, have little to play for can hardly be the basis for thinking that Spurs can go from also rans to Champions

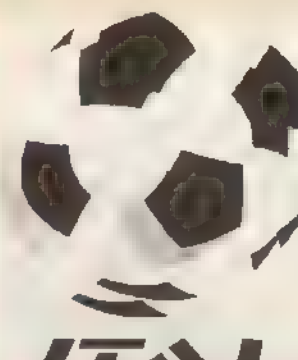
WALES have got to stop being the nearly men of British football - starting with success in next week's crucial World Cup qualifier against West Germany in Cardiff.

That's the view of Everton goalkeeper Neville Southall, who readily acknowledges that nothing less than wins in all their remaining Group Four games will be good enough for Terry Yorath's team.

Not only would that give them a great chance of qualifying for the 1990 Finals in Italy but help



Dean Saunders - Welsh danger man along with Ian Rush and Mark Hughes



MATCH talks to the man with a crucial role to play if Wales are to make it to the World Cup Finals - starting with the visit of the mighty West Germans next Wednesday.

KILLER WALES!

SOUTHALL BREATHES NEW FIRE INTO DRAGONS

them drop the 'bridesmaids' tag which has haunted so many campaigns over the last few seasons.

The Welsh 'Dragons' have had to sit back and watch England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Eire qualify for major Championships all over the world.

But all that has got to change NOW, according to 30-year-old Neville, who says: "We're only a couple of players short of being a very, very good team, but we've got to stop being the nearly men for so many reasons."

"Apart from anything else, the Welsh FA needs the money a trip to the World Cup would bring. It would also enhance our standing which would mean we would be able to attract better sides for friendly matches - which would again help finances."

"Before we start worrying about all that, however, we've got to do our stuff on the field, starting with a win against West Germany."

"In a qualifying group you normally set your stall out to draw your away games and then win at home, but we've only drawn 2-2 with Finland at home and lost 1-0 in Rotterdam."

"So we've got to win all our remaining games, although I don't suppose for one moment that's going to be easy against West Germany and Holland, who must be two of the best teams in Europe."

Fresh from a 1-1 draw with

reigning European Champions Holland, Franz Beckenbauer's German side currently top the group.

But in Ian Rush and Mark Hughes, the Welsh have a striking duo to worry the best according to Neville.

"Obviously it's a bonus having the pair of them back in this country and they're going to be absolutely crucial to our hopes in the rest of the games," he says.

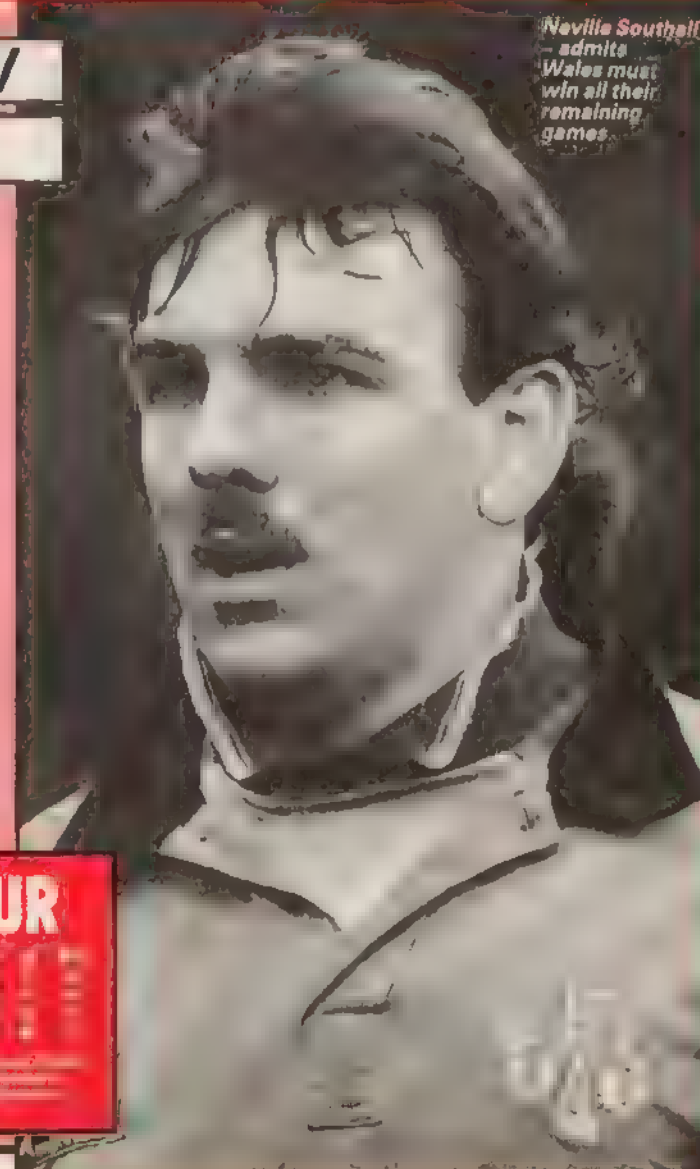
"Mark also had a spell on loan with Bayern Munich last season, so he might be able to provide us with some information."

"The Germans won't be able to afford Dean Saunders any room either. He's been playing tremendously well and always looks like getting goals."

"We proved what we're capable of when we beat Italy over there at the end of last season. That was just before the European Championship Finals, and although I didn't play, I gather they didn't like it one bit."

GROUP FOUR

Wales	West Germany	Holland	Finland
Wales	West Germany	Holland	Finland
Wales	West Germany	Holland	Finland
Wales	West Germany	Holland	Finland
Wales	West Germany	Holland	Finland



Neville Southall - admits Wales must win all their remaining games

DOUBLE TOPS!

WORLD OF SOCCER



MARADONA PLEDGE BOOSTS NAPOLI CELEBRATIONS

ARGENTINA star Diego Maradona this week gave Napoli fans a second reason to celebrate when he pledged his immediate future to the Naples club.

The midfield dynamo had been reported to be on the verge of quitting the club after losing the support of chairman Corrado Feraino.

But in an interview with Italian television, Maradona ended the speculation, insisting: "I won't leave Napoli until my contract expires on 1993."

He ended: "The only thing I said to the chairman was that if he no longer wanted me at Napoli he could sell me."

"I'm still happy here and want to see out my contract. But if the club don't want me then I'm sure another club will come in for me."

Maradona's decision to see out his contract will come as welcome news to the Napoli faithful who saw him lead his side to UEFA Cup glory following their 5-4 aggregate win over Stuttgart, the Italian side's first European trophy.

Their star import set up two of Napoli's goals then stepped forward to collect the cup as skipper.

While Napoli have already tasted European glory, it looks unlikely that they will lift the Italian First Division crown as Inter Milan take charge.

ANTOIGNONI TO QUIT

FORMER World Cup star Giancarlo Antognoni is set to retire later this month after 17 years in professional football. The international midfielder, formerly of Fiorentina and now with Lausanne, was a member of the victorious Italian side which won the 1982 World Cup.

FRENCH DRAMA

French First Division

HOW THEY STAND

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Inter Milan	26	21	8	1	50	13	48
Napoli	23	16	9	3	50	22	41
AC Milan	23	12	12	4	45	21	38
Juventus	23	12	10	6	41	32	34
Sampdoria	23	11	10	7	34	20	32
Atalanta	23	10	12	6	32	29	32
Florentina	23	12	7	9	41	36	31
Roma	23	9	10	8	27	32	28
Verona	23	5	16	7	17	21	26
Bologna	23	7	10	11	23	32	24
Lecco	23	7	10	11	19	31	24
Lazio	23	3	17	8	18	25	23
Pescara	23	5	13	10	24	35	23
Torino	23	6	10	12	25	38	22
Cesena	23	8	10	12	22	37	22
Arcore	23	6	9	13	22	34	21
Como	23	6	8	14	19	39	20
Pisa	23	4	9	15	12	34	17

LATEST RESULTS: Arcore 1, Bologna 0, Cesena 1, Pescara 0, Como 1, Atalanta 0, Fiorentina 1, Verona 1, Inter Milan 2, Lazio 1, Pisa 0, Sampdoria 1, AC Milan 1, Torino 0, Juventus 0, Napoli 1, Roma 1. LEADING SCORERS: 18 - Sereno (Inter Milan), 16 - Baggio (Fiorentina), Caracciolo (Napoli), 13 - Bergonzo (Fiorentina), Vialli (Sampdoria), 12 - Van Basten (Inter Milan), Carnevale (Napoli), 10 - Eusebi (Atalanta), Barros (Juventus), Virdis (AC Milan).

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PSV	33	23	8	5	75	31	51
Ajax	33	21	8	6	73	32	48
Feyenoord	33	15	10	8	65	40	40
FC Twente	33	10	18	5	44	28	38
Groningen	33	14	8	11	61	49	36
Roda JC	33	12	12	9	40	37	36
Den Bosch	33	14	6	13	45	61	34
Fort. Sitt.	33	11	11	11	39	56	33
Volendam	33	13	7	13	42	48	33
Haarlem	33	10	11	12	35	49	31

LATEST RESULTS: Fortuna Sittard 1, Haarlem 1, Groningen 1, PSV Eindhoven 2, Utrecht 1, RKD 2, Maastricht 2, Roda JC 1, Feyenoord 1, FC Twente 1, Volendam 3, Sparta 1, VVV Venlo 6, PEC Zwolle 2, Den Bosch 0, Ajax 3, Willem II 1, Veendam 1.

POLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
W. Chorzow	24	14	7	3	35	15	33
Gornik Zab.	24	14	5	5	43	20	38
GKS Kat.	24	14	8	4	36	17	37
L. Warsaw	24	12	8	6	33	13	38
Lech Poznan	24	10	7	7	32	28	28

LATEST RESULTS: Wisla Krakow 1, Gornik Zabrze 0, Pogon Szczecin 0, Ruch Chorzow 0, GKS Katowice 1, Legia Warsaw 0, LKS Lodz 1, Szombierki Bytom 1, Lech Poznan 1, Slask Wroclaw 1, Stal Mielec 2, Widzew Lodz 2, Jagiellonia Bialystok 2, Gornik Walbrzych 0, GKS Jastrzebie 1, Olimpia Poznan 2.

Three points awarded for a win by three or more goals, one point deducted for defeat by three or more goals.

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Benfica	37	27	8	2	58	12	62
Porto	37	20	14	3	49	17	54
Boavista	37	19	10	8	54	27	48
Sporting	37	18	9	10	50	31	45
Setubal	37	15	11	11	44	37	41

LATEST RESULTS: Sporting 0, Benfica 2, Nacional Madeira 0, Baira Mar 0, Boavista 0, Beirassense 1, Estrela Amadora 2, Porto 2, Espinho 2, Maritimo 1, Guimaraes 5, Viseu 0, Portimonense 2, Fafe 1, Penafiel 0, Farense 1, Chaves 1, Braga 1, Setubal 2, Leixoes 2.

SPAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	33	21	15	1	74	30	62
Barcelona	31	19	9	3	66	22	47
Atletico	32	15	13	4	52	28	47
Real Sociedad	32	18	8	10	57	27	38
Real Vall	32	15	8	11	34	25	38
Caixa	31	13	9	9	34	35	35
Sevilla	32	12	10	10	32	35	35
Real Zar	32	12	9	10	39	39	35
Ossuna	32	11	11	10	34	36	33
Ath. Bilbao	32	10	12	10	32	31	32
Sporting	32	11	8	12	26	36	30
Logrona	32	5	12	11	23	30	30
Real Soc	31	8	12	10	31	40	30
Real Oviedo	32	10	8	14	35	41	28
Cadiz	32	7	13	12	24	34	27
Malaga	32	10	7	15	33	44	27
Espanol	32	5	14	13	24	37	24
Real Betis	32	7	10	15	31	45	24
Real Murcia	31	8	4	19	24	49	20
Elche	32	4	8	22	26	50	14

LATEST RESULTS: Valencia 3, Elche 2, Osasuna 0, Espanol 0, Sporting Gijon 1, Malaga 2, Real Sociedad 0, Cadiz 0, Real Betis 0, Atletico Madrid 1, Real Madrid 3, Sevilla 0, Real Zaragoza 1, Athletic Bilbao 0, Real Valladolid 3, Logrona 1, Barcelona 3, Caixa 1, Real Murcia 0, Real Oviedo 0. LEADING SCORERS: 29 - Baltazar (Atletico Madrid), 23 - Sanchez (Real Madrid), 19 - Salinas (Barcelona).

USSR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sp. Moscow	10	7	5	0	19	3	17
Dyn. Kiev	8	8	3	3	14	7	13
Tor. Mos.	10	4	6	1	11	8	13
Dnepr Dnep.	10	4	4	2	11	7	12
Ch. Odessa	10	4	4	2	12	12	12
M. Kharkov	10	4	2	4	13	12	10

LATEST RESULTS: Spartak Moscow 1, Shekhtyor 0, Odessa Chernomorska 1, Dnepr Dnepropetrovsk 1, Dynamo Minsk 2, Zeligir Vinnitsa 0, Dynamo Moscow 0, Parnis Dushanbe 0, Torpedo Moscow 1, Metallist Kharkov 0, Ararat Yerevan 0, Dynamo Tbilisi 0.

YUGOSLAVIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Vojvodina	29	15	6	8	40	28	36
Rad Star	29	15	7	7	49	24	32
Dinamo	29	14	8	7	38	27	29
Rad	29	10	11	8	38	31	29
Hajduk	28	11	9	8	38	27	28
Osijek	28	11	7	10	43	41	27

LATEST RESULTS: Rad Belgrade 1, Dinamo Zagreb 2, Spartak Subotica 2, Celik Zenica 1, Vardar Skopje 4, Napredak Krusevec 3, Buducnost Titograd 1, Osijek 0, Red Star Belgrade 3, Hajduk Split 0, Partizan Belgrade 1, Velez Mostar 0, Radnicki Nis 3, Sloboda Tuzla 0, Rijeka 2, Vojvodina 1, Zeljeznicar 2, Sarajevo 1.

GARY'S GLORY

CONFIDENT COLOGNE

A SHOCK defeat for Bayern Munich has set the scene for a thrilling finish to the West German season.

A 2-0 defeat at Stuttgart Kickers has reduced Bayern's lead at the top of the table to just one point as Cologne increased the pressure with a 2-0 win over Borussia Dortmund.

Both sides have five matches remaining and outspoken Cologne coach Christoph Daum is confident his side can emerge as Champions.

"Bayern should enjoy their lead for a little while because it won't last much longer," he said.

IN BRIEF

TWO goals from Andre Walter helped Grasshoppers retain the Swiss Cup with a 2-1 win over Aarau. Rene van der Gijp scored the consolation goal in front of a crowd of 27,000.

FRENCH midfielder Thierry Pister has signed a four year contract with French First Division side Toulon after three years in Belgium with Antwerp.

LIBYA have withdrawn from the World Cup qualifying competition because they cannot play their four remaining group matches. The revised Group A table (with Libya's results deleted) now reads

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Algeria	1	1	0	0	3	2	2
Ivory Coast	1	1	0	0	0	1	2
Zimbabwe	2	0	1	1	0	3	1

GULLIT DOUBT

AC MILAN skipper Ruud Gullit is facing a race against time to be fit for tonight's European Cup Final clash against Steaua Bucharest.

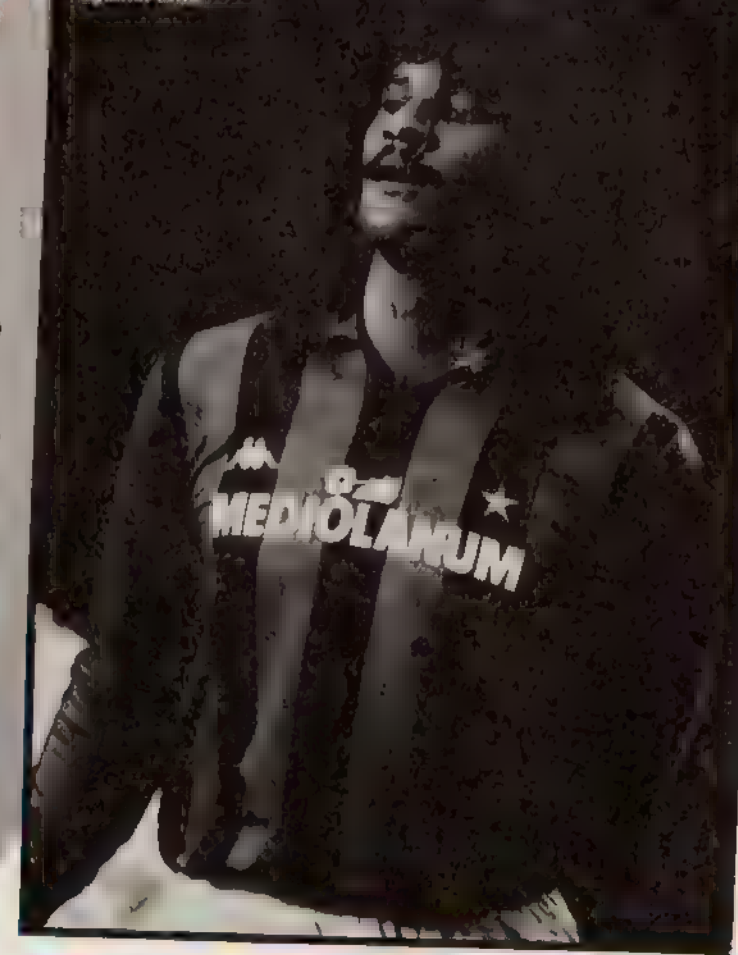
The Dutch master had a cartilage operation last month which forced him out of Milan's closing League games... and plunged into doubt his availability for tonight's

showcase Final. Gullit decided to return to Holland for treatment from a Dutch physiotherapist and Italian sports pages have also suggested that he left the country to escape the pressure he's been under.

"When you are feeling bad, you feel better in your own home," says AC trainer Arrigo Sacchi. "Having lived in Holland most of his life, it's obvious he should turn to the people he knows best."

"But Gullit has a great desire to get fit and play in the Final. And if he needs more time, then we'll give it to him."

Ruud Gullit - race against time



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WEAR THE WATCH

Now the double's in the bag, this super club watch is up for grabs.

The Rangers watch is quartz accurate and carries the club crest in white on blue. You can't miss it - especially when it costs just £24.95 from official Rangers shops or by post from Laing Leisure Division, 25A Renfield Street, Glasgow G2 1LY.

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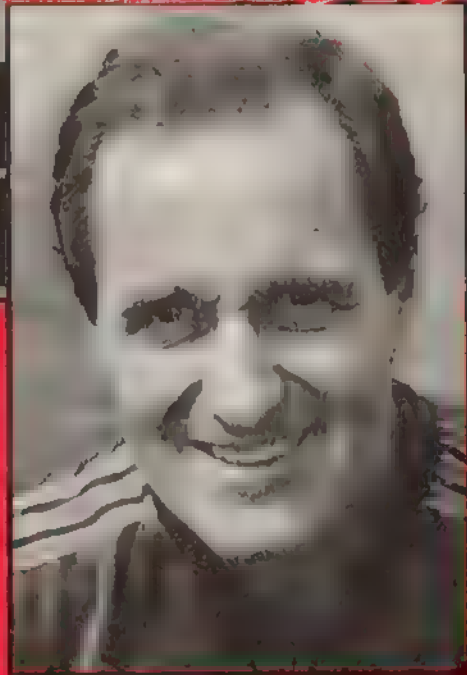


WEST HAM and England star **Stewart Robson** tells all about the injury which threatened his career and the **REAL** reason he quit Arsenal – **EXCLUSIVE!**
● Interview: **PAUL SMITH.**

HELPLESS

Arsenal manager George Graham – clashed with Stewart Robson

MY FALL-OUT WITH GRAHAM



SOCCER WORD

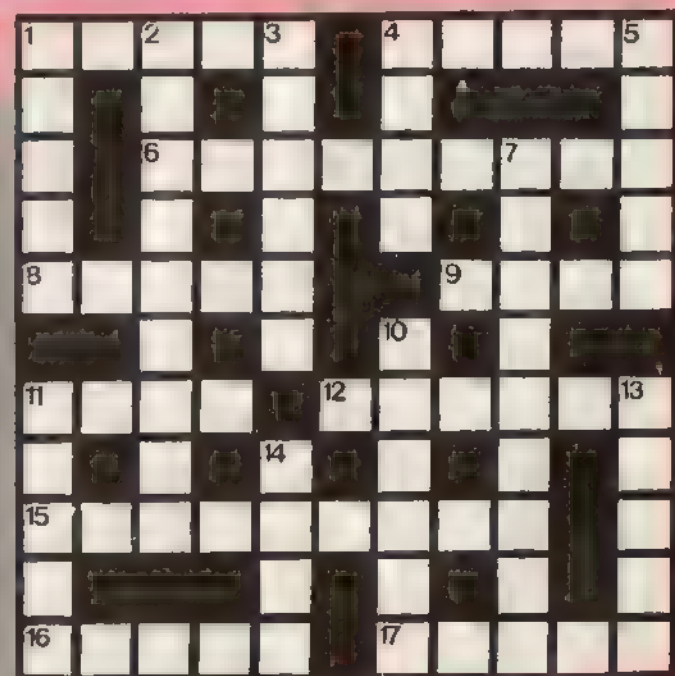
ACROSS

- Club to which Bryan Hamilton returned as manager in 1989 (5)
- Ex-Leeds 'keeper between the sticks at Highbury (5)
- Former Liverpool defender – briefly boss at the Manor Ground (9)
- Scottish striker who moved from Wrexham for success at Tranmere (5)
- Doncaster Rovers' veteran Irish international midfielder (4)
- They're useful for planning routes to away games (4)
- Former Old Trafford star who took Bristol City to

- the Littlewoods Cup Semi-Finals (6)
- The last French side to have appeared in a European Cup Final (2,7)
- Second Division club from the Potteries (5)
- Reading midfielder recruited from Gillingham in 1988-89 (5)

DOWN

- National side managed by Terry Yorath (5)
- Liverpool Scot unlucky with injuries in 1988-89 (9)
- The man who leads the line at Filbert Street (6)
- Emblem associated with 1 Down (4)
- Canary who flew in from



- Home of Birmingham City (2,7)
- Forename of Liverpool's skipper (8)
- Ex West Brom and Manchester United midfielder whose career was prematurely ended in 1987 (5)
- Veteran Dundee United and Scotland defender (5)
- Midfielder snapped up from Hibs by Brian Clough in 1985 (4)

SOLUTIONS

ACROSS: 1. Wigan; 4. Lukic; 6. St Andrews; 10. Ronnie; 11. St Andrew; 12. Lee; 13. Coney; 14. Rice; 15. Elsey; 16. Dalglish; 17. Elsey.
DOWN: 1. Wales; 2. Gillespie; 3. Etienne; 4. Jordan; 5. St Lawrence; 6. Steele; 7. Daly; 8. Wigan; 9. Lukic; 10. Ronnie; 11. St Andrew; 12. Lee; 13. Coney; 14. Rice; 15. Elsey; 16. Dalglish; 17. Elsey.

HAMMER

IT'S TORTURE FOR ROBSON

IT'S broken my heart to see West Ham battling against relegation this season when all I've been able to do is watch from the sidelines.
What makes it more disappointing is that we have played some great football but just haven't got the breaks we so often deserved.
The players at Upton Park are gutted about our season but I'm confident West Ham can bounce back if the club hold on to their best players.

I for one will be staying whatever our fate. I have a year left on my present contract and there's no reason why I should leave.
The club have some very good players, especially the likes of Stuart Slater and Paul Ince, although we might need to buy.
We must look to the future and bring people into the club that possess the skills to mount a serious challenge for the top honours and, with John Lyall in charge you can bet your last pound that we will be back to our best.

I FEARED I'D NEVER WALK AGAIN

THE last year has been a nightmare in which at one stage I feared I might never walk again, let alone play football.
The injury surfaced while I was with the England party in 1988 for the Rous Cup games against Colombia and Scotland.
At the time it wasn't clear how serious it was and, although I was in some pain, the doctors told me it was nothing to worry about.
The weeks leading up to the season I spent in a rehabilitation centre and it seemed as though the rest had done the trick.
I played in all West Ham's pre-season games without any reaction and was looking forward to the start of the season with high expectations.
However events took a dramatic nosedive during our first game at Southampton when, shortly after half-time, I collapsed. I could barely walk and feared the worst.
It took the doctors eight weeks to diagnose the problem which turned out to be a pelvic injury and I had no choice but to undergo major surgery.
The operation itself was very painful and involved a bone

graft to repair the damage.
Afterwards I spent three months resting, unable to do any training whatsoever, and even now I'm unable to run or kick a ball.
I've spent the last four months weight-training, however, and I'm determined to win my battle.
Footballers have a habit of being negative, especially after an injury, and I remember when Liam Brady damaged his knee at Derby last season. He promptly announced he was finished but he's been a regular all this season apart from the occasional knock.
I can take heart from that I'm young and I am sure I have a bright future in front of me. I know I'll beat this.



Liam Brady – thought he was finished but bounced back.



Stewart Robson worried he might never play again

FREE POSTER!

YES, there's yet another superb double-sided poster with next week's MATCH-WINNING issue!

- Great pictures of the game's biggest names
- Player profiles, goal records, career details

ALL IN COLOUR!

NEXT WEEK

FIRST AGAIN!
Sherpa Van
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BOLTON V
TORQUAY
PLUS
SCOTLAND
V ENGLAND

WORLD CUP SPECIAL
PREVIEW
Big names
Dave BENNETT
Paul WILLIAMS
Stew McMAHON
Nigel CLOUGH

£1,000 WORTH OF PRIZES

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*Please read carefully - this is very important! If you are not the subscriber of the telephone you are using you must obtain permission before making an 0898 competition call. This applies especially if you are under 18 years of age. *In the event of difficulties with our competition hot-line please ring 0343 814644 (9am to 5pm office hours).

1. Who scored the winning goal in the final seconds of extra time when Scotland beat Cyprus 3-2 in a World Cup Qualifying game?
2. Before joining French club Bordeaux, Clive Allen played for a number of London clubs, but which one of the following has he never played for?
3. Keith Bertchin joined Walsall from Sunderland in the Summer of 1988, but which First Division team did he once play for?

4. Manchester City striker, Trevor Morley, has been a regular goalscorer on their return to Division One, but which club did he play for before moving to Maine Road?
5. Peter Davenport failed to keep a regular first team place at Old Trafford before moving to Middlesbrough, but for which club did he play before joining Manchester United?
6. Nigel Spackman returned to London to join Queens Park Rangers from Liverpool, but which club did he play for before moving to Anfield?

0898 400 386

GET the best of both worlds with this portable TV Music Centre.

That's the prize on offer to MATCH readers this week as we give you the chance to dial your way to a super TV Music Centre supplied by Currys worth £100.00.

Bectex is offering 10 Matsui Portable TV Music Centres which can be collected by the winners at any Currys branch.

And all you have to do to stand a chance of being one of our lucky winners is dial the telephone number (above) and correctly answer the six simple questions that are listed in this advertisement.

You will be given three possible answers for each question and all you have to do is tell the computer which one you believe is correct (i.e. number one, two, three) by speaking clearly into the receiver.

If you answer all six questions correctly, the computer will tell you so and ask for your name, address, postcode and telephone number. Again speak clearly into the receiver.

The phone line will be open from 8am Wednesday May 24th and will close at 8pm on Tuesday May 30th and there's no limit to the number of times you can enter.

Winners will be chosen at random by the computer from the correct entrants - 10 lucky MATCH readers each receiving a great new TV/Music Centre.

Each winner will be contacted by phone and a full list of winners will be published in the June 24th issue of MATCH.

It will take you three minutes (approx) to complete your entry and calls are charged at 25p per minute off peak (after 6pm) and 38p per minute peak/standard rate (including VAT).

MATCH Facts!

PLAYER RATINGS

MATCH RATINGS

WELCOME to 'Match Facts' - now in a better, brighter format and including even more of the information every football fan wants to know. Your number one results service now contains the times of substitutions plus a final match comment from our men inside the grounds. It's another great MATCH exclusive so make sure you order your copy every week.
*Players are rated only if they play for 20 minutes or more.

Monday, May 15

Division One

COVENTRY (0) 2 (Griffiths 74, Long 76) 1-0 NOTTINGHAM FOREST (0) 2 (West 76, Clough 85) 1-0
Aston 6 (sub 84 mins) Johnson, Woods 6 (sub 84 mins) Page, Entwistle 6
*GRIFFITHS 8
Wolves 6 (sub 84 mins) Bellamy 6 Thompson 7
Sheff Wed 7 (sub 80 mins) Sandier Jones 6
Young 6 Scores 6 Kruszyński 6 McGee 6
Fashanu 6 Cork 6 (sub 74 mins) Miller, Wise 7
Referee: A. Groves (Weston-Super-Mare)
Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Division Two

SWITZERLAND (0) 0 ENGLAND (0) 2 (Gardner 56, Schuppli 73) 0-2
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Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Division Four

BLACKPOOL (0) 0 CARDIFF (0) 0
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Match Rating: ★★
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Division Five

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Match Rating: ★★
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Division Six

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Wolves 6 (sub 84 mins) Bellamy 6 Thompson 7
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Match Rating: ★★
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Division Seven

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Division Three

ARSENAL (1) 2 (Winterburn 14, Merson 50) 1-0 WIMBLEDON (1) 2 (Cork 31, McGee 55) 1-0
Aston 6 (sub 84 mins) Johnson, Woods 6 (sub 84 mins) Page, Entwistle 6
*GRIFFITHS 8
Wolves 6 (sub 84 mins) Bellamy 6 Thompson 7
Sheff Wed 7 (sub 80 mins) Sandier Jones 6
Young 6 Scores 6 Kruszyński 6 McGee 6
Fashanu 6 Cork 6 (sub 74 mins) Miller, Wise 7
Referee: A. Groves (Weston-Super-Mare)
Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Division Four

BLACKPOOL (0) 0 CARDIFF (0) 0
Aston 6 (sub 84 mins) Johnson, Woods 6 (sub 84 mins) Page, Entwistle 6
*GRIFFITHS 8
Wolves 6 (sub 84 mins) Bellamy 6 Thompson 7
Sheff Wed 7 (sub 80 mins) Sandier Jones 6
Young 6 Scores 6 Kruszyński 6 McGee 6
Fashanu 6 Cork 6 (sub 74 mins) Miller, Wise 7
Referee: A. Groves (Weston-Super-Mare)
Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Division Five

BLACKPOOL (0) 0 CARDIFF (0) 0
Aston 6 (sub 84 mins) Johnson, Woods 6 (sub 84 mins) Page, Entwistle 6
*GRIFFITHS 8
Wolves 6 (sub 84 mins) Bellamy 6 Thompson 7
Sheff Wed 7 (sub 80 mins) Sandier Jones 6
Young 6 Scores 6 Kruszyński 6 McGee 6
Fashanu 6 Cork 6 (sub 74 mins) Miller, Wise 7
Referee: A. Groves (Weston-Super-Mare)
Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Division Six

BLACKPOOL (0) 0 CARDIFF (0) 0
Aston 6 (sub 84 mins) Johnson, Woods 6 (sub 84 mins) Page, Entwistle 6
*GRIFFITHS 8
Wolves 6 (sub 84 mins) Bellamy 6 Thompson 7
Sheff Wed 7 (sub 80 mins) Sandier Jones 6
Young 6 Scores 6 Kruszyński 6 McGee 6
Fashanu 6 Cork 6 (sub 74 mins) Miller, Wise 7
Referee: A. Groves (Weston-Super-Mare)
Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Division Seven

BLACKPOOL (0) 0 CARDIFF (0) 0
Aston 6 (sub 84 mins) Johnson, Woods 6 (sub 84 mins) Page, Entwistle 6
*GRIFFITHS 8
Wolves 6 (sub 84 mins) Bellamy 6 Thompson 7
Sheff Wed 7 (sub 80 mins) Sandier Jones 6
Young 6 Scores 6 Kruszyński 6 McGee 6
Fashanu 6 Cork 6 (sub 74 mins) Miller, Wise 7
Referee: A. Groves (Weston-Super-Mare)
Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Monday, May 15

Monday, May 15



• Ian Rush — the Liverpool super-sub who scored twice to help the 'Reds' lift the FA Cup.

Monday, May 15

Division One

COVENTRY (0) 2 (Griffiths 74, Long 76) 1-0 NOTTINGHAM FOREST (0) 2 (West 76, Clough 85) 1-0
Aston 6 (sub 84 mins) Johnson, Woods 6 (sub 84 mins) Page, Entwistle 6
*GRIFFITHS 8
Wolves 6 (sub 84 mins) Bellamy 6 Thompson 7
Sheff Wed 7 (sub 80 mins) Sandier Jones 6
Young 6 Scores 6 Kruszyński 6 McGee 6
Fashanu 6 Cork 6 (sub 74 mins) Miller, Wise 7
Referee: A. Groves (Weston-Super-Mare)
Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Division Two

SWITZERLAND (0) 0 ENGLAND (0) 2 (Gardner 56, Schuppli 73) 0-2
Aston 6 (sub 84 mins) Johnson, Woods 6 (sub 84 mins) Page, Entwistle 6
*GRIFFITHS 8
Wolves 6 (sub 84 mins) Bellamy 6 Thompson 7
Sheff Wed 7 (sub 80 mins) Sandier Jones 6
Young 6 Scores 6 Kruszyński 6 McGee 6
Fashanu 6 Cork 6 (sub 74 mins) Miller, Wise 7
Referee: A. Groves (Weston-Super-Mare)
Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Division Three

ARSENAL (1) 2 (Winterburn 14, Merson 50) 1-0 WIMBLEDON (1) 2 (Cork 31, McGee 55) 1-0
Aston 6 (sub 84 mins) Johnson, Woods 6 (sub 84 mins) Page, Entwistle 6
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Fashanu 6 Cork 6 (sub 74 mins) Miller, Wise 7
Referee: A. Groves (Weston-Super-Mare)
Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Division Four

BLACKPOOL (0) 0 CARDIFF (0) 0
Aston 6 (sub 84 mins) Johnson, Woods 6 (sub 84 mins) Page, Entwistle 6
*GRIFFITHS 8
Wolves 6 (sub 84 mins) Bellamy 6 Thompson 7
Sheff Wed 7 (sub 80 mins) Sandier Jones 6
Young 6 Scores 6 Kruszyński 6 McGee 6
Fashanu 6 Cork 6 (sub 74 mins) Miller, Wise 7
Referee: A. Groves (Weston-Super-Mare)
Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Division Five

BLACKPOOL (0) 0 CARDIFF (0) 0
Aston 6 (sub 84 mins) Johnson, Woods 6 (sub 84 mins) Page, Entwistle 6
*GRIFFITHS 8
Wolves 6 (sub 84 mins) Bellamy 6 Thompson 7
Sheff Wed 7 (sub 80 mins) Sandier Jones 6
Young 6 Scores 6 Kruszyński 6 McGee 6
Fashanu 6 Cork 6 (sub 74 mins) Miller, Wise 7
Referee: A. Groves (Weston-Super-Mare)
Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Division Six

BLACKPOOL (0) 0 CARDIFF (0) 0
Aston 6 (sub 84 mins) Johnson, Woods 6 (sub 84 mins) Page, Entwistle 6
*GRIFFITHS 8
Wolves 6 (sub 84 mins) Bellamy 6 Thompson 7
Sheff Wed 7 (sub 80 mins) Sandier Jones 6
Young 6 Scores 6 Kruszyński 6 McGee 6
Fashanu 6 Cork 6 (sub 74 mins) Miller, Wise 7
Referee: A. Groves (Weston-Super-Mare)
Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Division Seven

BLACKPOOL (0) 0 CARDIFF (0) 0
Aston 6 (sub 84 mins) Johnson, Woods 6 (sub 84 mins) Page, Entwistle 6
*GRIFFITHS 8
Wolves 6 (sub 84 mins) Bellamy 6 Thompson 7
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Referee: A. Groves (Weston-Super-Mare)
Match Rating: ★★
• DONS' dent Gunglers' (it's a bit)

Monday, May 15

Monday, May 15

MO'S MILESTONES

OCTOBER 3, 1981

AN 18-year-old Maurice Johnston makes the break into professional football with Partick Thistle when he stars on his debut against St. Mirren. He then goes on to make a further 31 appearances in his first season, scoring nine goals.

NOVEMBER 19, 1983

AFTER a £200,000 move South of the border, Mo makes his League debut for Watford but it ends in disaster as they crash to a 4-1 defeat.

DECEMBER 3, 1983

AFTER two games without a goal, Mo repays a huge chunk of his transfer fee when he blasts a hat-trick in eight minutes as Watford win 5-0 at Wolves.

FEBRUARY 28, 1984

FOLLOWING a long list of injuries, Scotland manager Jock Stein gives Mo the call-up for the game against Wales. And after coming on as a half-time substitute, Mo gets his name on the scoresheet to complete a dream debut.

MAY 19, 1984

AFTER scoring in every round of the FA Cup, Mo finds himself at Wembley in the Cup Final clash with Everton. However a below-par performance from Mo - and his Watford team-mates - results in the 'Hornets' losing 2-0.

OCTOBER 7, 1984

MO plays his last game for Watford as they go down to a 1-0 home defeat by Coventry. After weeks of speculation surrounding his future, a £400,000 deal then takes him to his beloved Celtic.

MAY 18, 1985

MO completes his first season at Parkhead clutching a Scottish Cup winners' medal as Celtic beat Dundee United 2-1.

MARCH 17, 1986

DESPITE helping Celtic on their way to the Championship, Mo suffers World Cup heartbreak when Alex Ferguson leaves him out of the Scotland squad to travel to the Finals in Mexico.

MAY 9, 1987

MO plays his last game for Celtic before signing for French club Nantes in June. His time at Glasgow was tainted with off-the-field problems and, although he admits to loving Celtic, he vows never to return.

MAY 12, 1989

ALMOST two years after playing his last game in the green and white hoops, Mo signs for the 'Bhoys' in a deal thought to be around £2 million. Mighty Mo is now back and ready to go again.

First again!

DID YOU SEE the exclusive colour from Saturday's Scottish Cup Final at Hampden on Pages 4 and 5? Remember MATCH is always first and best with the late colour action.

JOHNSTON SIGNING TO SPARK CELTIC'S GOLDEN AGE

THE return of Mo Johnston to Celtic has set the whole of Glasgow buzzing and, almost before the old season has ended, talk among the Parkhead fans is already of next season and the part Mo can play in getting Celtic back on the Championship trail. RAY RYAN gets the verdict of Celtic stalwart Tommy Burns.

MO JOHNSTON'S blockbuster arrival at Celtic is the first piece of a multi-million pound jigsaw which will turn the Parkhead men into Europe's top team. That's the view of stalwart midfield ace Tommy Burns who believes that Mo's arrival in a £2 million deal will spark a hive of transfer activity at Parkhead. And Tommy is also convinced that the other stars Billy McNeill has targeted will

not only wrest the Scottish title away from arch-rivals Rangers but also bring European glory to the 'Bhoys'. Says Tommy: "Mo's return to Parkhead is the biggest statement of intent the club has made over the last 20 years. "It shows that Billy McNeill is very serious about turning Celtic into a major force in European football and he's certainly going the right way about it. "Obviously the boss wasn't too happy about our performance in the League this season and that's why he's decided to splash out a lot of money on bringing Mo back from Nantes. "But he knows that Mo can't bring success on his own so that's why he's looking at a number of other star players to bring to the club. "Obviously I can't mention any names but the players in question are the type who - combined with our current team - can give Mo a brilliant service to get the best out of his goalscoring ability. "So with Mo's arrival and one or two other acquisitions, I'm

sure we will become a major force in European football. "In fact, we could easily become the best club side in Europe." Tommy is one of only a handful of Celtic players who were at Parkhead before Mo left for the sunny climes of Nantes almost two years ago. And with the dynamic marksman leaving with the words "I'll never return to Celtic again," how surprised was Tommy by his return? "Very surprised," he continues. "There had been a lot of stories in the Press about Mo leaving Nantes but all the talk was that he'd go to another Continental club. "It was only on the day of his signing that any news about his return to Celtic broke. "Naturally we were all delighted that he's come back because he is a superb striker who will always score goals. "And since leaving Celtic for Nantes, his stature as a marksman has risen dramatically and I have no hesitation in saying he's one of the top three strikers in Europe. "Since returning, he's looked sharper, stronger, quicker and a

much better player all round. "I'm sure he has the French season to thank for that. They don't play as many games abroad as they do in Britain, so, as a result, their players have longer to relax between matches and consequently look fresher for it. "But in addition to improving on the park, Mo has also matured off the field and has turned into a responsible family man. "When he was here before he had a few problems which may have stemmed from his fast way of life but that's all behind him now. "Mo's arrival will also plunge into doubt the Celtic future of their current strikers. Already boasting a firing line of Mark McGhee, Andy Walker, Tommy Coyne and Joe Miller, it looks certain that at least one marksman will be forced out of the door when Mo dons the famous green and white hoops again. "The striking positions will give the boss a massive selection problem, but it's a nice problem to have," Tommy says. "Obviously competition for places can only be good for the club and it will keep everyone on their toes."



Happy times at Watford as Mo and strike partner George Reilly celebrate the 'Hornets' FA Cup Semi-Final win over Plymouth in the 1984 FA Cup Semi-Finals



CHAMPIONS! Mo pictured with then strike partner Brian McClair and Celtic skipper Danny McGrain after lifting the Premier League title in 1986

6 Mo's return to Parkhead is the biggest single statement of intent the club has made in the last 20 years - TOMMY BURNS.



Mo Johnston - showing the style Celtic fans hope will bring the League title back to Parkhead

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JUVENTUS CHASE ELLIOTT

ENGLAND hopeful Paul Elliott is set for a dramatic close-season move to Italian giants Juventus.

MATCH can reveal that the former Aston Villa defender – currently playing in Italy's First Division with Pisa – is the man Juventus want to strengthen their suspect defence next season.

Talks between the Presidents of both clubs have already begun, with the move likely to go through early this summer.

At present Italian clubs are allowed to play only two overseas players, but if as seems likely, that is changed to three for next season, 'Juve' look like off-loading Dane Michael Laudrup and bringing Elliott to accompany Portugal's Rui Barros and Russian Alexander Zavarov.

Paul has won admirers with his performances for Pisa over the past two years and many feel he has been unlucky not to figure in any of Bobby Robson's recent England squads and, in an exclusive interview with **MATCH**, he said: "While I'm very happy at Pisa, a move to a club like Juventus would have to interest any player."

"I've been here for two years now and, despite being one of the less expensive imports into the Italian League, I know I've done well and established myself in the minds of people here."

Paul's contract with Pisa has a year to run but that's unlikely to deter Turin giants

Juventus who can offer the club a bigger profit on their £500,000 buy from Villa should they agree to sell now.

The 25-year-old centre-back hasn't totally ruled out a move back to England but admits: "If a club like Juventus came in for me, then that would be my major priority."

"But if I did end up returning to England, then I would like to return to a London club because that's where I'm from," says Paul, who began his career at Charlton before moving on to Luton and then Villa Park.

"My experience with Pisa has stood me in good stead to play football anywhere. I have had a good apprenticeship here. It's a very friendly and family-like club where everyone has been very helpful."

"Pisa obviously doesn't compare in size with a club like Juventus in Turin but it meant I had a quiet entry into Italian football and was able to concentrate on establishing myself."

"If I'd gone straight to one of the biggest clubs here, the spotlight would have been on me right away. Ian Rush was a good example of that. Juventus paid £3.5 million for him and the pressure was on him from day one."

"I had a little bit more time to develop."

Paul also feels that 'Rushy' neglected the golden rule for British players abroad – and suffered for it.

"For any foreign player, learning the language is the



MATCH brings you the inside story behind speculation concerning the future of England's last survivor from the great Italian player drain.

BELOW: England manager Bobby Robson – could look to Paul Elliott in the 1990 World Cup Finals.



LEFT: Ian Rush – made a fatal mistake in Italy.

most important thing," says Paul. "No disrespect to Ian, but I think his major problem at Juventus came from not learning Italian."

"If he had been able to communicate with his coaches and the other players then I think the problems he was suffering on the pitch could have been sorted out."

"Being the world-class player he is, I'm sure with a bit more communication he could have changed his style."

"Football's a simple game and communication with your team-mates can sort out 90 per cent of your problems."

"I made sure I learned to speak Italian fluently and I've benefited from that."

With a successful grounding in Italian football behind him, Paul has now set his sights on an England breakthrough, where he feels knowledge gained from playing against many of the world's top strikers could benefit England in the World Cup hosted by Italy next summer.

He says: "Four years ago, when I was playing at Luton under David Pleat, I felt I was just on the edge of an England breakthrough but it all just slipped away."

"Now I'm a more mature player and I'm playing against some of the best players in the world who will all be here next summer in the World Cup Finals."

"That doesn't make me an automatic choice for England, but hopefully it will merit some consideration."

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WIN A PHOTO OF YOUR HERO

BE one up on your football mates with a poster-sized all-action colour photograph of your own soccer hero!

David Jacobs, one of the game's top photographers, who over the years has won every big award and whose pictures are published all over the world, will be taking the shot.

And all you have to do to stand a chance of winning this original prize is answer the following question: WHICH FIRST DIVISION STAR WAS RECENTLY NAMED PFA 'PLAYER OF THE YEAR'?

Send your entries on a postcard or sealed-down envelope together with your name, age, address, DJ Bear MATCH Club membership number and the name of your football hero to: 'Hero Competition', MATCH, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

Replica

As usual, there will be a DJ Bear replica for the runner-up and entries must arrive no later than Friday, June 2.

Free programme

JOIN the DJ Bear MATCH Club this week and you get a free football programme together with all the usual goodies.

But it's first come, first served so be quick!

As a new member you get an official membership card and wallet, a card signed by DJ on your birthday, members-only competitions and your own page in MATCH every week.

DJ's goal is to bring the fun back to football and improve the image of the game so come and join him.



Geoffrey Trowsdale (pictured on the right of the three mascots) lines up with his hero, Graham Roberts, before the start of Chelsea's game at Portsmouth.



MEMBERSHIP COUPON

I wish to join the DJ Bear/MATCH Club and enclose £1 cheque/postal order made payable to MATCH for membership.

Full name (including all christian names)

Address

Age

Birthdate

MIGHTY MASCOT

WITH a heart the size of a football and displaying the courage of a dozen lions, he proudly bounces about the pitch in a Chelsea jersey with a number four on his back.

No, it's not macho skipper Graham Roberts but tiny seven-year-old Geoffrey Trowsdale - not much bigger than a shin pad but big enough to have the top specialists at St Thomas' Hospital Waterloo looking up at him as he defies the medical books, goes through the pain barrier and gets the thousands of Chelsea fans shouting: 'Loyal supporter - we love you!'

Your DJ Bear met Geoffrey at Fratton Park before the match with Portsmouth on the final Saturday of the season and his Dad Gary told me: 'He went potty when we arrived here and he saw your name in the programme. Besides Graham Roberts, you are his other hero.'

'He's now the official Chelsea mascot for away games but Geoffrey's really a mini-mascot for the League because he does applaud and cheer both sets of fans.'

Geoffrey's Dad went on: 'It all started at Chelsea's away match at Manchester City. There were over 40,000 supporters packed into the ground and the

PANDA'S PARABLE

ASK A
SILLY
QUESTION
AND YOU GET
A SILLY ANSWER

MR PANDA
HOW DO YOU
SPELL
OPPOSITION?

O-P-PAWS-I-T-I-O-N

YOU
DIDN'T
ASK
ME
HOW
THE
DICTIONARY
SPELT IT

WRONG THE
DICTIONARY
SPELLS IT
O-P-P-O-S-I-T-I-O-N

BRAVE GEOFFREY IS CHELSEA CHEER-LEADER

referee told both mascots to go down the players' tunnel and sample the atmosphere. The City mascot stood back but Geoffrey ran straight onto the pitch and the whole crowd roared in approval of this little boy who wanted to clap both sets of fans.

'He's been to every Chelsea away match since and it's a medical miracle because, two days before a game, Geoffrey, who suffers from a serious mystery stomach virus, starts to glow with health - such is his determination to be there.'

'The football drug is 100 times more powerful than all the antibiotics he's on. The medical boys just scratch their heads in disbelief.'

Strong

I asked Geoffrey why Graham Roberts is his hero. 'He's so big,' he replied, 'and so strong. One day I want to be big and strong like him.'

In character, Geoffrey already is. He's football's new hero but what a pity all this happened on a day when a few of Birmingham's idiotic fans at Crystal Palace hit the headlines. Our little Geoffrey never got a mention but then the real fans never do...



STAR STUDY

No. 10

LATE-RUNNING ROBSON!

A PLAYER'S natural instinct on seeing an open space in the penalty box is to run into it. This is not always the right thing to do because you show yourself and make it easy for a defender to pick you up. Study how the master of the late run, Bryan Robson of Manchester United and England, waits on the blind side of defenders until his team-mate is in a position to pass into the gap. This is the signal for Robson to take advantage of the opening - timing his run to arrive with the ball and usually adding his name to the scoresheet.

JOIN TONY COTTEE ON HIS 1989 SUPER STRIKER OF THE YEAR AWARD

RESIDENTIAL & NON RESIDENTIAL SOCCER SCHOOLS THIS SUMMER

Join TONY COTTEE for six days of top professional coaching. Meet visiting internationals from Everton FC and Liverpool FC. Receive a fantastic Webber match football and take part in the 1989 TONY COTTEE SUPER STRIKER OF THE YEAR AWARD. Goalkeepers receive specialised coaching under the guidance of NEVILLE SOUTHALL.

Take part in several competitions in age groups - such as penalty skill competitions - with graded certificate for each boy and girl plus mini world cup with fantastic trophies for all competition winners. Watch in amazement as three times world champion football juggler ADRIAN WALSH demonstrates his skills, and then he'll show YOU how. Plus a tour of the famous GOODISON PARK, and MUCH MUCH MORE. For further details and brochure telephone 0268 728313 (24hrs) or write to: - ROY CASTLE/TONY COTTEE, 10 Josselin Court, Basildon, Essex, SS13 1QF. Also NON RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS in LANCASHIRE - ESSEX - KENT.

TOP
COACHES



STEVEN GREEN
1988 Super Striker
Award winner

BIRTHDAYS
DJ Bear/MATCH Club members receiving a special DJ Birthday Card this week are:
May 24: David Hammond, Stanley; Stephen Robb, Belfast; Danny Hughes, Kenley.
May 25: James Smith, Stanmore; John Allen, Chesterfield.
May 26: Patrick Malley, Co Mayo; Marco Impagliazzo, Huddersfield; Andrew Wilson, Fife; Stephen Zirger, Rowde; Neil Woodby, Stoke-on-Trent; Kevin Davies, Stoke-on-Trent; Ian McIntock, Upton-by-Chester.
May 28: Philip Collier, Abbey Wood; David Haworth, Darwen; Paul James, Horsham; Mark Robert, Dundee; Ian Lipthorpe, Guisborough.
May 29: Graham Caygill, Berkhamsted; Daniel Thompson, King's Lynn.
May 30: Andrew Hooper, Grenoside; Christopher Whiffin, Wickham; Andrew Towniss, Lincoln; James Kelly, Bridgend; Robert Gates, Woking; Lauren Gatenby, Bradford; Matthew Pickerill, Wolverhampton.

FEARSOME FOURSOME!

FOUR names have struck fear into the heart of Third Division defenders this season.

Fortunately for them the nightmare is over but, for their counterparts in the Second Division, the sleepless nights are about to start as they ponder the prospect of facing the fearsome foursome – Steve Bull and Andy Mutch of Wolves and the Sheffield United duo of Brian Deane and Tony Agana.

Between them, the quartet have fired an astonishing 133 goals as their teams stormed into first and second spots respectively – and are now preparing for life in a higher echelon.

Bull and Mutch proved their mettle in Wolves' Fourth Division Championship side and have just been paid the marvellous compliment of being invited on the England B tour.

The pair from Bramall Lane were the surprise packet of the season, however, being brought together by Dave Bassett who took Tony Agana from his former club Watford and then signed Deane from Doncaster in the summer.

They were an immediate hit and grabbed almost as many headlines as their better-known rivals from Molineux.

But just how good are the two partnerships and how will they fare next season?

MATCH put the question to Bury defender Kenny Clements, now 34, who has had a wealth of First and Second Division experience with both Manchester City and Oldham.

And he came up with some answers that should be of great interest to the host of managers and scouts who have run the rule over all four players repeatedly this season.



Brian Deane (left) and Tony Agana – Sheffield United's partnership of steel.



CLEMENTS' VIEW ON ...

Deane & Agana

SHEFFIELD UNITED are a typical Dave Bassett team, hitting the early ball up front to Brian Deane and then working hard and supporting each other.

It's not a million miles from Wimbledon and I suppose Deane is a bit of a John Fashanu in the way he uses his elbows and his knees to battle for everything. In short, he's a real nuisance to play against.

To be honest, there are quite a few similar players knocking about in the League and the player who really caught my eye was his striking partner Tony Agana.

He's got a lot of skill, is very sharp and fast and looks like he could do well at a higher level.

He's the right sort of foil for a big man like Deane and gets on the end of the knock-downs.

So they're effective as a unit, which is what it's all about, but again it's hard to say how they would get on if a club came in for one of them and the partnership was broken.

I don't think they would be successful, but that would be the case with Bull and Mutch. A partnership is something that's unique to two players and you can't re-create it by matching them with somebody else.

I have no idea how Sheffield United will get on in the Second Division but I do know their strikers will make life very uncomfortable for a lot of defenders!

CLEMENTS' VIEW ON ...



CRITICS say Steve Bull can't play – but he just keeps scoring goals and proves them wrong.

Anyway, they're wrong when they say he's only good at putting the ball in the net because he's got a footballing brain and knows when to release the ball, although when he does get the sniff of a chance he'll always take route one for goal.

And the way he uses his strength reminds me a lot of the old Manchester City player Francis Lee, who had a similar single-minded attitude when it came to scoring.

Nobody can deny Steve does have that almost priceless goal knack, which is why the papers are full of £1 million transfer talk. That sort of skill is in short supply.

He has struck up an incredible partnership with Andy Mutch – who seems to create so many of his goals – although I suspect one of the reasons for their success is the quality of supply they get from the rest of the team, in particular winger Robbie Dennis.

After two successive Championship wins, it's not surprising that confidence is flowing through the team, which is another big help for goalscorers because they won't be shot-shy or worrying about the next goal.

Wolves try to play football and I think they could make a big impact on the Second Division, but a lot of that depends on how successful Graham Turner is at keeping the side together.

It's difficult to imagine how Bull and Mutch would get on if one of them did leave and the partnership was split up, but I'm absolutely certain Steve Bull in particular will score goals in whichever team he plays.

Bull & Mutch

HOWARD Wheatcroft reports on two of football's most prolific striking partnerships.



THANKS PARTNER! Steve Bull (left) and Andy Mutch clown with the Third Division Championship trophy – their goals having played a major part in Wolves' success.

GOAL-BLASTING BLADES

Competition	Goals Deane	Goals Agana	Team total	Partnerships goals as % of team total
League	22	24	93	49%
FA Cup	5	3	18	44%
Littlewoods Cup	3	2	9	56%
Sherpa Van	0	1	4	25%
Total	30	30	124	48%

GOAL-HUNGRY WOLVES

Competition	Goals Bull	Goals Mutch	Team total	Partnership's goals as % of team total
League	37	21	96	60%
FA Cup	0	0	0	–
Littlewoods Cup	2	0	3	67%
Sherpa Van	11	2	17	76%
Total	50	23	116	63%

MALCOLM ALLEN NORWICH CITY



 **MATCH**